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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

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## 6 February Middle East and South Asia Review

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### Afghanistan

**Soviet Withdrawal**—The Soviet Union has withdrawn "all" its forces from Kabul and is "determined to withdraw all of its troops from Afghanistan before the scheduled date," Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov stated in remarks reported by IRNA 6 February.

According to a TASS report from the Soviet-Afghan border, a Soviet military spokesman confirmed that "over 30,000 troops have already left Afghanistan" but that subdivisions of Soviet troops remain in 5 provinces.

**Shevardnadze Visit to Pakistan**—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze arrived in Islamabad 4 February and held talks with President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and other leaders, according to Islamabad radio. The talks concerned the situation in Afghanistan and economic and trade relations between the USSR and Pakistan, the radio noted, adding that Shevardnadze extended his visit by 1 day.

A joint statement issued on the visit noted that Pakistan and the USSR agreed to promote a political settlement in Afghanistan and to encourage the establishment of a broad-based government in that country, Islamabad radio reported.

At a 6 February news conference before his departure for Moscow, Shevardnadze called on all groups involved in the Afghan conflict to meet under UN auspices to ensure that the Soviet withdrawal does not create a "threshold of civil war," KYODO noted.

THE PAKISTAN TIMES reported that Shevardnadze brought a "package deal" that included an offer to halt bombing raids on Afghan territory after the withdrawal providing there is agreement on the composition of a "broad-based" government in Afghanistan, AFP reported.

**Security Situation**—Kabul is "now under martial law," TASS reported 5 February. The agency noted that thousands of people including PDPA members paraded through the city carrying banners, while helicopters patrolled the airspace and artillery "pounded" the opposition's positions in the suburbs.

President Najibullah declared at a 5 February rally that the PDPA, its political allies, and the "national democratic forces" will teach the armed opposition "unforgettable lessons," Kabul radio reported. However, he affirmed that his government is "ready to talk with and understand the opposition at whatever level they wish."

Shelling by "extremists" in Kabul Province 5 February resulted in eight people killed, TASS reported. There was also shelling in Paktia Province which killed one man and injured two others.

"Several" Afghan Government officials fled to India recently, according to Afghan sources cited by AFP. The agency said the "unexpected arrivals" at New Delhi's international airport included the wife and son of Prime Minister Mohammad Hasan Sharq.

According to Islamabad radio, a "large number" of Afghan mujahidin have entered Kabul along with refugees. Mujahidin leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar disclosed that arrangements had been made to capture Kabul "from the inside," the radio added.

**Mujahidin Pact**—Mujahidin groups based in Iran and Pakistan signed a "unity and friendly cooperation pact" 5 February, Tehran television reported.

### Iran

**Foreign Relations**—Iran's relations with the United States will "not be restored as long as the U.S. continues its hostile attitude," President 'Ali Khamene'i told reporters in Tehran 5 February according to IRNA. He added that Washington could show its goodwill by "releasing Iran's frozen assets" and by "giving up its hostile and mischevious stance."

In a commentary on U.S.-Iranian relations, Moscow radio contended that Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larijani's recent remarks calling on the United States to show goodwill "may prove an important step" in improving these relations. The "resuscitation" of relations would benefit both sides and help improve the international atmosphere, the radio stated.

Larijani began talks with visiting Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vorontsov 5 February, Tehran radio reported. The two sides discussed the need for a political solution in Afghanistan and cooperation between Iran and the USSR.

Talks between Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and his French counterpart Roland Dumas began in Tehran 5 February, IRNA reported. The two sides discussed bilateral relations, the implementation of UN Resolution 598, and France's outstanding debt to Iran. A Tehran radio commentary on Dumas' visit pointed out that despite the "issues which have cast a shadow on the expansion of relations," the visit provides an opportunity for clarification of "existing uncertainties."

**Friday Prayers**—Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani outlined the achievements of the Iranian revolution over the past 10 years in a Friday prayers sermon reported by Tehran radio. He stated that although Iran has "not yet reached the lofty goals set" at the beginning of the revolution, the country's enemies are "despondent," the majority of the people support the leadership, and the Iranian people are "satisfied with the revolution." He went on to call for a new "decade of reconstruction and economic independence" for the country.

### Pakistan

**Nuclear, Missiles Programs**—A Foreign Ministry spokesman "expressed surprise and concern" at claims by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi that the FRG has supplied nuclear technology and tritium to Pakistan, Islamabad radio reported.

He denied that Pakistan has imported nuclear materials or technology from the FRG and counterclaimed that India has imported heavy water "through clandestine sources" as well as other materials which can be used to manufacture hydrogen bombs.

Pakistan has successfully test-fired long-range surface-to-surface missiles, according to Army Chief of Staff General Mirza Aslam Beg cited by Islamabad radio 5 February. He added Pakistan hopes to produce its own tanks within 2 years.

**Baluchistan Government**—Nawab Mohammad Akbar Khan Bugti was sworn in as chief minister of Baluchistan 5 February, Islamabad radio reported.

### Lebanon

**Clash in South**—An IDF patrol killed five "terrorists" who were discovered moving into the "security zone" near Hasbayya early 5 February, IDF radio announced. The intruders were on their way to perpetrate an attack inside Israeli territory, the radio said.

The PFLP and Palestine Liberation Front issued a joint communique in Damascus acknowledging that five of their fighters were killed in a clash with Israeli forces near Hasbayya, Radio Monte Carlo noted.

**Amal-Hizballah**—The agreement between Hizballah and the Amal Movement stipulates it will henceforth be "forbidden" for anyone to abduct foreigners in Lebanon, Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan asserted in a press statement cited by AFP.

**Political Developments**—Salim al-Huss, the prime minister in West Beirut, announced in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio that he is willing to meet Gen Michel 'Awn, his counterpart in East Beirut, if and when the two sides have agreed on a "unifying salvation position" that will end the current divisive state. Al-Huss stressed he is not ready to meet Gen 'Awn in the absence of such an agreement as this would mean "mutual recognition and coexistence of two governments," thereby threatening the unity and existence of the country. Al-Huss also said he regrets and "cannot understand" PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's decision to meet with 'Awn in Tunis.

A source close to Gen 'Awn viewed the meeting with 'Arafat as a "new chapter" in relations with the Palestinians, who "no longer constitute a danger to Lebanon," the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon noted.

In Damascus, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah met with President Hafiz al-Asad 4 February, telling journalists afterward that the Syrian leader was "fully supportive" of the Arab ministerial committee's efforts to bring about peace and stability in Lebanon, according to Damascus television.

A Damascus radio commentary affirmed that Syria will not withhold whatever support is required to help all serious attempts to end the Lebanese crisis. An editorial in Kuwait's AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM stressed Syria is the Arab country with the most understanding of the Lebanese issue and its opinion should "always be taken into account."

### Israel

**Territories Violence**—Three Arab youths were killed in clashes with IDF soldiers in the Gaza Strip 4-5 February, Jerusalem radio reported. Arab sources stated that around 30 other people were wounded, including an International Red Cross official. HA'ARETZ noted that the disturbances followed recent stiff prison sentences to Gaza stonethrowers.

On the situation in the West Bank, Jerusalem radio reported that four Arabs were wounded in a 5 February clash with soldiers. Three Arab children were severely burned the previous day, HA'ARETZ noted and the IDF is investigating allegations that burning objects were hurled at them from passing vehicles. Israeli troops used tear gas to disperse Jewish settlers who rioted in an Arab village to protest stonethrowing attacks, Jerusalem radio reported. **Shamir Remarks**—A Palestinian state will "never be founded" in Eretz Yisra'el, which belongs "to the Israeli people alone," Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem television. Shamir also told journalists that he has plans concerning the Palestinians, "some of which have not yet been published," according to IDF radio.

### Tabah Issue

Jerusalem radio reported that Israel and Egypt signed an agreement 4 February in which Israel pledged to withdraw from Tabah "within a few days" of the two sides resolving the "controversial" issues: compensation for Israeli assets and entrance arrangements for Israeli tourists.

MENA transmitted the "text" of the agreement, which notes that Egyptian, Israeli, and U.S. representatives will meet in Tabah on 26 February to review and finalize the results achieved in working groups and to set a timetable for Israel's withdrawal.

An Egyptian Foreign Ministry source cited by MENA noted that Israel has for the first time promised to withdraw from Tabah in accordance with a definite timetable.

### PLO Affairs

An "informed" Palestinian source stated that the second official session of PLO-U.S. talks will be held in Tunis 13 February, Kuwait's AL-SIYASAH reported.

WAKH cited a story in the UAE's AL-ITTIHAD claiming that Israel is planning to assassinate Yasir 'Arafat and that it has held contacts with the United States on this matter. The paper alleged that a recent meeting between U.S. National Security adviser Brent Scowcroft and Israeli military officials was linked to the plan.

Palestinian sources in Jordan disclosed that arrangements have been made for 'Arafat to visit Syria during "the next few days," according to Amman's SAWT AL-SHA'B. PLO official Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh reportedly held "positive talks" with Syrian officials in Damascus over the weekend.

### Iraq

**Israeli "Plot"**—Israel is planning to attack Iraq on the "pretext" that the latter has chemical and biological weapons, Kuwait's AL-QABAS reported 3 February. The paper claimed it has "new information" on the plan and that Israel tried to "instigate" world opinion against Iraq in order to prolong the Iraq-Iran war and to divert attention from the Palestinian uprising.

**Foreign Relations**—King Husayn of Jordan arrived in Baghdad 5 February for talks with President Saddam Husayn and other leaders, INA reported. The two sides discussed the Iran-Iraq peace talks and joint Arab action to "serve the higher interests of the Arab nation."

President Saddam Husayn received Yugoslav President Raif Dizdarevic in Baghdad the previous day, according to Belgrade Radio and INA. The two sides discussed bilateral relations and the work of Yugoslav experts in Iraq. President Husayn expressed the hope that the Yugoslavs will continue to help in Iraq's reconstruction program, the radio noted.

Dizdarevic stated that his talks with President Husayn will help improve relations between the two countries and expressed the wish that bilateral cooperation "will be limitless," INA added.

### Syria

The United States must "abandon the Zionist vision that prevents it from taking a balanced, objective position" on the Middle East, TISHRIN declared 21 January. However, the paper acknowledged that President Bush came to power "relatively free of the Jewish vote" and that State Department spokesman Charles Redman has criticized Zionist "repression" against Arab citizens.

On relations with Egypt, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' told reporters in Damascus that Syria would "welcome any positive step" by the Egyptian Government aimed at enhancing Arab solidarity, Damascus television reported.

### Algeria

A new draft constitution recognizes "the right to create associations of a political character" and the "workers' right to strike", according to AFP. Algiers radio reported 4 February that President Chadli Bandjedid has issued a statement on the draft.

## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Morocco Reportedly Mediates Between U.S., Libya
*NC0502105289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0834 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Feb (MENA)—In today's edition, the Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-ITTIHAD cites informed Arab sources in Rabat as saying that Morocco has exerted successful mediation efforts between Libya and the United States in order to hold a dialogue between the two parties in the near future to establish normal ties.

Citing the same sources, AL-ITTIHAD reports that during these contacts with Washington, Morocco received guarantees that the United States would not launch any military action against Libya and would deal with differences between the two countries through dialogue. The paper also states that the U.S. guarantees not to launch a military action against Libya will open the way for Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhadhafi's personal participation in the Maghreb summit conference scheduled to convene in Marrakech on 15 February.

### Quadripartite Summit Scheduled for Amman 12 Mar
*JN0402201389 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 3 Feb 89 p 1*

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that a quadripartite summit for leaders of the four countries—Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, and the YAR—which intend to form an economic grouping will be held on 12 March in the Jordanian capital, Amman, to approve the constitutional formula for this grouping, which will be called "The Arab Economic Cooperation Council."

A senior Arab source in Cairo told AL-ITTIHAD that meetings at the expert level are currently being held in the four capitals to prepare a formula for the new Arab grouping. These will be followed by a meeting at the prime ministers' level, which will also be held in Amman before the end of this month, February, to approve the organizational and constitutional structures for the grouping before referring them to the summit.

The same source asserted that a high-level contact was made with Syria to join the Arab economic grouping and that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is well informed about all details on the objectives of this grouping and the contacts that preceded the agreement to establish it. The source added that the Syrian president promised that his country will join in the future.

[Manama WAKH in Arabic at 1400 GMT on 4 Februray carries an item citing Kuwait AL-SIYASAH as saying that prime ministers of Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, and the YAR will soon meet in Amman to finalize the fundamental law for the quadripartite grouping among these states. The news agency adds that this meeting will prepare for a quadripartite summit meeting to be held in Baghdad before the end of this month, February. WAKH also adds that other Arab states, such as Palestine and Sudan, have shown interest in joining this grouping in the future after the proclamation of the fundamental law.]

## Palestinian Affairs

### PFLP-PLF Communique on Attack on Israelis
*JN0502163489 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] The PFLP and the Palestine Liberation Front have issued a military communique in Damascus claiming responsibility for a military operation in the Hasbayya area. The communique said a joint unit from the forces of martyrs Wadi' Haddad and Tal'at Ya'qub attacked Israeli forces and engaged them in a fierce battle. During this, heavy losses were inflicted on the Israelis. It added that five members of the joint force were martyred in this battle, while the rest returned safely to base.

### Fatah Call Says Hamas Statements 'Not Binding'
*JN0302184689 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1602 GMT 3 Jan 89*

[Call issued by "the Fatah Movement's male and female prisoners detained in the jails and prisons of the Zionist occupation" on 1 February]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Call, call, call issued by the Fatah Movement's male and female prisoners and addressed to the masses of our heroic Palestinian people in the proud bank and steadfast Gaza Strip; to our kinfolk who are holding out in the heart of the homeland; to the people of the independent Palestinian state, the people of the PLO; to those who forged our PNC resolutions; to our generations of revolt and the glowing flame of the uprising, the protectors of the revolution at all times and everywhere; to all our honorable people who are waging the revolution and upholding its banner and who are also defending it with their lives and blood; to all those who encounter all the conspiracies hatched against this people by the Zionist aggressors and also by all enemies of the revolution and the people, the enemies of independent Palestinian decisionmaking:

O masses of our people and our kinfolk in Palestine: Your glorious uprising has entered its 2d year after arduous struggles, great sacrifices, and painful sufferings through which you offered thousands of wounded and detainees and hundreds of righteous martyrs who have fallen while vindicating the Palestinian right and truth. Throughout all this, you have been exposed to various forms of Zionist killings and violence, such as house demolitions; the opening of fire with live ammunition, rubber bullets, and asphyxiating gas; deportations; and bone-breaking operations, not to mention the acts of pursuit and oppression being perpetrated against the masses of our heroic people.

All of these honorable sacrifices and the struggle you have offered have had a great and tangible effect on the enemies' front on political, economic, and military levels. The enemies have been placed in a very impotent and weak position in their confrontation with these feats of heroism inscribed on the immaculate land of Palestine—the feats of heroism scored on the international level. You have removed the mask from the ugly Zionist face, which is filled with rancor, racism, and terrorism against the Palestinian people, who are struggling on their national soil to realize their rights to self-determination and to establish their independent state on their sacred territory.

Thus, our cause has won the international support and sympathy of the universal conscience. Our PNC resolutions on the declaration of Palestinian independence and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state have come about to preserve the blood spilled by the martyrs and wounded and also to vindicate the sufferings experienced by those imprisoned and detained. These resolutions were based on our historical and national rights to Palestine and also on international legitimacy and the UN resolutions. Hence, our PNC resolutions were adopted using independent Palestinian democratic methods. These resolutions won the unanimous support and backing of all PLO factions. Besides this, they also won the support of all Arab states, not to mention the support voiced for them by the international community and friendly and peace-loving nations of the world.

While noting here this militant momentum and these victories scored by the blessed uprising, it must be said that we are facing the most serious challenges posed by the enemies. These challenges are represented by:

1. The attempts being made by some parties to bring about a split between the masses of our people and the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising [UNLU] through the issuing of suspect statements signed by various organizations to achieve this hostile purpose.

2. The call on the people and instigation of them through these statements against the resolutions of the Palestinian people and also against PNC resolutions on the declaration of independence.

3. The issue of statements signed by Hamas and other nationalist forces specifying strike days. These statements are not binding on our people, as they are not signed by the UNLU. Thus, these statements do not serve the national interests.

4. The attempts being made by the enemy security organs to fragment our nationalist ranks and to portray and exaggerate events by highlighting them on television and radio to give the impression that there are differences among the nationalist forces within the UNLU.

O our Palestinian masses in revolt; O our kinfolk in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. We appeal to you in the name of all sanctities and in the name of all martyrs, all the wounded, and the deportees to keep the national trust and to be, as we have always known you to be, the guardians of this homeland and the protective shield of the revolution that protects it from all the dangers facing it. We also appeal to you not to allow yourselves to be dragged to the problems created by the enemies by which they seek to achieve nothing other than the liquidation and besieging of our cause and people. They seek to sow the seeds of dissension and discord within our ranks. Therefore, we call upon you to do the following:

1. To stick to the instructions contained in all statements issued by the UNLU and to carry out the militant activities and observe the strike days contained in these statements, demonstrating a high degree of accuracy and precision.

2. To fight all statements that are not signed by the UNLU. In case such statements are issued, they must be collected and burned. Our people's masses must be swift in doing this.

3. To fight all statements signed by anyone whoever he may be unless these statements are signed by the UNLU. People must not abide by instructions contained in statements issued by agencies or parties other than the UNLU, as they mention strike days and also because they would increase the suffering experienced by the sons of our people. Besides, this would also run counter to the opinion and wishes of both the Palestinian people's leadership and those of the UNLU.

4. To face and confront all those who seek to create differences among our masses, regardless of the parties supporting these people.

5. To fight all statements issued if they conflict with PNC resolutions, as these statements would serve the interests of the enemies. Furthermore, such statements would not serve our national orientations.

6. To ascertain the authenticity of the statements issued by the UNLU by listening to them on the radio, as they are aired over the Baghdad Voice of the PLO, since the enemy has recently distributed Call No 29 using more than one formula. Our masses must beware of this and display a high degree of caution in this.

We are bound to be victorious. Long live the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of our heroic Palestinian people under the leadership of the brother leader and symbol Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]! Long live the

UNLU! Long live the PNC resolutions! Long live the blessed uprising being staged by the great Palestinian people! Long live the independent Palestinian state with holy Jerusalem as its capital! Glory, all glory belongs to our righteous martyrs. It is revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Fatah Movement's male and female prisoners

### Second U.S.-PLO Session Set for 13 Feb

*JN0502155789 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 4 Feb 89 p 1*

[By Yusuf 'Alawinah]

[Excerpt] It has been learned from an informed Palestinian source that the second official session of dialogue between the PLO's delegation and the U.S. ambassador in Tunis will be held on 13 February, 2 days before a principal PLO Executive Committee meeting in Baghdad and about 3 weeks ahead of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to Washington. [passage omitted]

### Mosad Reportedly Plans To Assassinate 'Arafat

*JN0402101089 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 Feb (WAKH)—Press reports in Abu Dhabi said today that Israel has a new plan, prepared by the Israeli Mosad, to assassinate Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat.

The Abu Dhabi-based AL-ITTIHAD cited what it called Arab sources in Cairo as saying that the next 2 months were fixed for the implementation of the plan, code-named "Victory Plan" [khittat al-nasr], and that for this purpose, the enemy received from a British company small and delicate weapons including machineguns and electronic bugging devices.

The same sources explained that enemy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and his war minister, Rabin, accompanied by the new Mosad director, visited a secret camp for training the assassination team over the past 2 weeks. Shamir asked for the speedy training and preparation of the team.

According to information, various Mosad agents will take part in the implementation of the plan. Many meetings with enemy ambassadors in Rome, London, and Washington were held for this purpose. Tel Aviv also held contacts with the United States over this matter. The sources pointed to the recent reception by Brent Scowcroft, White House national security advisor, of two Israeli military officials.

The paper pointed out that although the venue of the assassination has not been fixed it is likely to take place in an Arab capital if the attempt to assassinate 'Arafat in a European capital fails.

The paper quoted Palestinian sources in Nicosia as saying that the visit to Cyprus that Yasir 'Arafat was due to make last month was delayed after Palestinian information conformed with other security information from a number of West European countries that the visit was not safe, as a plan to assassinate 'Arafat during the visit had actually been studied by the Mosad's highest organs.

The paper added that Western security organs assess the statements by Ari'el Sharon, Israeli minister of industry and trade, in which he threatened 'Arafat's life, as not mere statements but as an expression of a serious plan already in existence.

The paper quoted the sources as stressing that, in accordance with this information, it was decided that 'Arafat's visit to Cyprus be open and take place at any time depending on security conditions.

### PLO Spokesman on Israeli Plan To Attack Iraq

*JN0302182289 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] Tunis, 3 Feb (INA)—Official PLO spokesman Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman has said that the Zionist entity's threats to carry out an attack against Iraq on the pretext that Iraq possesses chemical weapons is a desperate attempt to export its crisis, which is the result of the overwhelming Iraqi victory and the continuation of the uprising in the occupied territories.

In a statement to an INA correspondent in Tunis today, he added that the great Iraqi victory over the Khomeyniite aggression has paved the way for direct negotiations, disturbed the balance of power in the region, and foiled all the Zionist entity's attempts to carry out its aggressive plans. He said that this is in addition to the situation the Palestinian uprising has created in the occupied territories.

He said that these factors and facts in the region involved the Zionist entity in a big political impasse. He added that the Zionist entity is trying to play down the effects of the impasse internally and externally through threatening to carry out an attack or through fabricating reasons as a prelude for this attack.

He added that Israel considers Iraq its malignant foe because of its pan-Arab stands, which it adopts under all circumstances, toward supporting the Palestinian people's struggle and the PLO. He said that this support was one of the major contributions to the uprising in the occupied territories. He added that this is why the Zionist entity seeks to retaliate against Iraq, whose President Saddam Husayn adopts a splendid pan-Arab stand toward supporting the uprising and the Palestine question and who considered the uprising martyrs as the Iraqi Army martyrs.

He pointed out that the Zionist entity's threats to Iraq are threats to the Arab heart, which is greatly and effectively supporting the uprising and the Palestine question, and therefore, the Zionist threats are directed against the uprising, its continuation, and escalation.

The Palestinian official called for a collective Arab stand against these hostile intentions through taking action on all levels.

He stressed that Iraq's sons, under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn, are capable of foiling these Zionist intentions. He emphasized that Iraq will bring double retaliation on the aggressors and that attacks will not settle the Zionist entity's impasse but will exacerbate it. He said that the Zionist entity has no choice but to respond to the Palestinian people's just demands and then to stop instigating the aggressor forces in the region against powerful Iraq.

## 'Arafat Sends Message to Husayn Via Al-Qasim

*JN0302204489 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1623 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, has sent a verbal message to His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan on the various developments currently under way in the region.

Brother Abu 'Ammar asked Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim to convey the message during a reception accorded to the minister in Tunis yesterday morning.

During that meeting, they discussed the situation in the region, especially the blessed uprising being staged by our people in our occupied Palestinian territories and its escalation despite the increasingly brutal Israeli repression and the continued pursuit of the iron-fist policy against our people. They also discussed the recent international moves.

The meeting was attended by Palestinian Ambassador to Tunisia Hakam Bal'awi.

## 'Arafat Meets Swedish Envoy on New Peace Plan

*JN0502071689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2157 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Tunis, 4 Feb (INA)—PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held talks with a Swedish envoy here today that were described as very important. The Swedish envoy's name and post have not been revealed. Palestinian sources told the INA Tunis correspondent here this evening that these talks are a continuation of the talks 'Arafat previously held with the director of the Swedish Foreign Ministry's Middle East Affairs Department.

The Palestinian sources added the the meeting was restricted to only 'Arafat and the Swedish envoy and that, during the meeting, Sweden submitted a new political plan for settling the Middle East cause that takes into account the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and specifies the form of the negotiations that will be held under UN auspices.

## 'Arafat Meets With UN Envoy on Territories

*JN0502171889 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] PLO Chairman brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has called on the United Nations and the Security Council to exert the necessary efforts to drive the Zionist enemy to end its oppressive policy in the occupied territories. This came during a meeting in Tunis yesterday between brother Abu 'Ammar and UN envoy Jean-Claude Aime.

They discussed the deteriorating situation in the occupied territories as a result of escalating oppression by the Zionist occupation authorities. Brother Abu 'Ammar warned against a new act of aggression by the Zionist enemy against Lebanon to distract world attention from the acts of oppression perpetrated by the occupation authorities in the occupied territories and avoid entering the peace process.

## PLO Radio Repeats Rejection of Shamir Proposals

*JN0502101689 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1940 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Station commentary: "The Zionist Enemy Is Again Trying To Peddle Its Rotten Merchandise"]

[Text] Brothers, sons of our great Palestinian people, sons of our glorious Arab nation: The PLO, leader of the heroic Palestinian people, has rejected and continues to reject the proposals announced by Yitzhaq Shamir, head of the Zionist entity government. This is because these proposals are rotten, worthless merchandize that nobody wants to buy. Moreover, the Palestinian part of the Camp David accords was stillborn from the very first moments several years ago. So all enemy attempts to breathe life into this part of the accords is a mere delusion, a waste of time, and an attempt to avoid the pressure of the new facts that are being created by our blessed Palestinian uprising.

Perhaps we have all observed that Yitzhaq Shamir is again trying to peddle his rotten merchandize, while the Zionists are riding the severest waves of violence and terrorism against our people and deluding themselves by threatening to stop or curb the uprising. We have heard such cries and threats, witnessed all kinds of naive attempts, and experienced escalations of Zionist crime and rancorous terrorism several times over in the past 14 months. But all of them have failed, and the uprising has continued to forge ahead powerfully, and Palestinian logic has managed to express itself in the current Palestinian peace inititiave, which is winning unanimous world support and achieving daily victories in the international arenas.

The Palestinian initiative is based on international legality and calls for a clear, unambiguous sequence of events: An international peace conference attended by the five permament member states of the UN Security Council under UN supervision and the participation of the PLO on an equal footing with the other parties. In order to ensure the success of this conference, the PLO calls for the withdrawal of the Zionist occupation forces under UN supervision so the peace process will proceed on a normal course.

Therefore, Yitzhaq Shamir's proposals and other such proposals are no more than a smoke screen and an obvious trick to twist the facts and to avoid the final outcome of the desired peace; namely, the Palestinian state.

We tell the Zionist enemy that if its mad terrorism, blind violence, and the dispatch of soldiers and arms have not succeeded in stopping the advance of the uprising over the past 14 months, then it is obvious its naive maneuverings will not succeed. Our people have decisively and clearly chosen their path—the path of struggle and creativeness on the battlefield and of political initiatives based on the substance of the Palestinian rights and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state.

If the Zionists are feeling choked by the gravity of the international trend surounding them, especially the unanimous international support for the Palestinian uprising and the Palestinian initiatives, then they have no choice but to give in to Palestinian rights, because they have no other alternative. Let Shamir stop his exposed maneuverings. Our heroic people know their clear path. It is a revolution until victory.

## Algeria

### President Publicizes Constitutional Reform Bill

*LD0502144389 Algiers Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Yesterday, the president of the Republic publicized the bill for constitutional reform. It will be submitted to a popular referendum on 23 February. The modifications proposed affect most of the provisions of the 1976 Constitution. They are aimed at, in particular, giving complete guarantees of the exercise of individual and collective freedoms in all forms and in all the areas of the exercise of political power by the people.

These modifications are also aimed at establishing the organization and the separation of executive, legislative, and judicial powers, and also to specify the political, economic, and social sphere of action of the institutions and the structures of the state. The bill for constitutional reform contains 168 clauses [word indistinct]; reference to the national charter and the socialist option is omitted, but the bill nevertheless states that the Algerian state is founded on the principles of democratic organization and social justice.

The people provide themselves institutions with the aim—among others—of eliminating the exploitation of man by man. Twenty-eight clauses are devoted to the guarantee of basic rights and freedoms. Among the rights guaranteed to the citizens is the right to health protection, the right to work, the right to belong to a union, and the right to strike, exercised within the framework of the law. Freedom of expression, association, and meeting are also guaranteed to the citizen. The right to education is also guaranteed; it is free within the conditions laid down by the law. The right to establish associations of a political nature is recognized in this constitutional reform bill.

In this constitutional reform bill, three different authorities are instituted: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial. The bill, furthermore, provides for the setting up of a constitutional council, the chairman of which will be appointed by the president of the Republic for a single 6-year term of office. The setting up of a higher islamic council and a higher security council is also planned. The latter provisions of the bill lay down the procedure for the constitutional reform, a constitutional reform bill which you will find in its entirety in your papers this morning, and which will thus be submitted to a referendum of the people on 23 February.

### Draft Constitution Allows Formation of Parties

*NC0502114189 Paris AFP in English 1126 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Algiers, Feb 5 (AFP)—The right to form independent political parties would appear to be guaranteed by Algeria's new draft constitution, which is to be put to a national referendum for approval on February 23. In a chapter on rights and freedoms, the document published late Saturday says that "the right to create associations of a political character is recognised".

However this right "cannot be invoked against fundamental liberties, national unity, territorial integrity, the country's independence and the sovereignty of the people," the text adds.

A statement announcing the referendum to approve the proposed major amendments to the constitution, issued by the office of President Chadli Bendjedid earlier Saturday, had made no mention of multipartism. At present the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) is the only legal party.

The new draft reiterates that Islam is the "state religion" and that Arabic is the "national and official language." Unlike the old constitution, it no longer speaks of socialism, however.

The circumscribed in the new text is the role of the Army, whose task, it says, will only be to defend the unity and territorial integrity of the country. The old text gives the Army a role in the "development of the country and the establishing of socialism."

The draft also guarantees the right to private property, the right of inheritance, the inviolability of the person and proscribes all forms of physical or moral violence. Offences committed against rights and freedoms, and physical or moral harm to the integrity of a human being, are punishable by law, it states.

The constitutional amendments, the second in recent weeks, come in the wake of anti-government riots in October. These were bloodily put down by the security forces, who were also accused of widespread torture.

The proposed new text recognises workers' right to strike. This right must, however, "be exercised within the framework of the law", which can prohibit or limit it "in domains of national defence and security, or for all services or public activities of vital interest to the community."

The presidential term of office is reduced from six to five years. The sermon of office for the swearing-in of a president is also modified to remove ideological references, and commits the incumbent to protect "human and citizen's rights" rather than those of "people".

The new constitution underlines the separation of executive, legislative and judicial powers, proclaims the independence of the judiciary and guarantees the protection of a judge against any form of pressure or interference. It also provides for a special council to oversee respect of the constitution and the regularity of elections, as well as an Islamic council and a national security council.

## Egypt

### Agreement on Israeli Withdrawal From Tabah
*NC0402174389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1715 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA)—A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has stated that the intensive contacts which the Egyptian Government has held with the United States and Israel in the past few days have resulted in tangible progress on the Tabah situation and have led to "an agreement of understanding" confirming Israel's final withdrawal from the Tabah region within days of the conclusion of the talks on arrangements concerning the remaining issues. It has accordingly been decided to resume the meetings of the committees concerned with these issues tomorrow, Sunday, and the talks are expected to conclude before the end of February.

Following is the text of the agreement of understanding signed today by Egypt, Israel, and the United States:

The Egyptian and Israeli Governments agreed to extend the period specified in the Rome agreement of 29 November 1988 for a further 30 days, until 28 February 1989, in order to continue the negotiations.

The U.S. Administration told the Egyptian and Israeli Governments that, in its view, if the parties negotiate seriously and in good faith then it will be possible to conclude the negotiations within 4 weeks.

The Egyptian and Israeli Governments agreed that the meetings of the working group on access to the area should start tomorrow, Sunday, 5 February, in Tabah. Representatives of the owners of tourist facilities will meet representatives from the Egyptian Tourism Ministry, as well as officials from the Egyptian departments concerned in Cairo on 5 February. The Egyptian, Israeli, and U.S. delegations will meet in Tabah on 26 February to review and complete the work of the working groups. The timetable for the withdrawal from Tabah will be set on the basis of the understanding already reached.

Commenting on the easing of tension in the Tabah issue, a responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has said that this is the first time that Israel has clearly promised to withdraw from Tabah in accordance with a definite timetable.

This evening, Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, head of the Egyptian delegation; Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Shim'on Shamir; and U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Frank Wisner initialed the agreement of understanding to resolve the pending issues between Egypt and Israel in preparation for Israel's withdrawal from Tabah in accordance with the ruling of the international arbitration panel.

### Expert Committees To Meet
*NC0402165689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1605 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA)—Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, head of Egypt's delegation to the Tabah talks; Frank Wisner, U.S. ambassador in Cairo; and Shim'on Shamir, Israel's ambassador in Cairo, began a meeting at the Foreign Ministry tonight.

It is expected that during the meeting the three parties will initial an agreement which will lead to meetings of expert committees as of tomorrow, Sunday. The first committee, which is to discuss tourist facilities, will meet in Cairo under the chairmanship of Fu'ad Sultan, Egypt's minister of tourism and civil aviation. The second committee, which will meet in Herzliyya in Israel, is to discuss entry and exist visas for the Tabah area. Ambassador Hasan 'Isa, director of the Israel Department at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, will represent Egypt at the meetings of this committee.

### Delegation Departs for Tabah
*NC0502170489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1621 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 5 Feb (MENA)—Ambassador Hasan 'Isa, head of the Israel department at the Foreign Ministry and head of the group entrusted with working out the arrangements for access to Tabah by Israeli tourists, left for Tabah this afternoon. Ambassador 'Isa is accompanied by Major General Shawkat Tal'at, deputy chief of the Liaison Committee; and a nine-member delegation from the Ministry of Interior, the Customs Department, and the Central Bank.

In a predeparture statement, Ambassador 'Isa said that he will hold a final round of talks on arrangements for access to Tabah. He added that he will submit a report on the outcome of his group's work to foreign minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, so that it may be discussed along with the results of the talks held by the other group, which is concerned with examining the question of the tourist facilities in Tabah. [passage omitted]

### Israeli Official Arrives
*NC0502204889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1955 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Cairo, 5 Feb (MENA)—Nimrod Yarkman [name as received], counsellor at the Israeli Foreign Ministry, arrived in Cairo this evening from Tel Aviv on a visit to Egypt expected to last several days. During the visit he will take part in the discussions of the committee on the tourist facilities in Tabah.

The committee will meet in Cairo tomorrow. The Egyptian delegation will be headed by Fu'ad Sultan, minister of tourism and civil aviation.

### Israel Intervention Requested in Al-Aqsa Dispute

*NC0502153689 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Egypt has requested the Israeli Government to intercede to stop an attempt by some Israeli extremist religious groups to obtain a ruling by the Israeli higher court banning the Islamic awqaf [religious endowments body] from carrying out any repairs inside the holy mosque of Al-Aqsa [in Jerusalem] and its courts.

During a meeting with the Israeli ambassador in Cairo today, Ambassador Husayn Hassunah, director of the office of the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, explained that such a decision would affect the status of the Al-Aqsa Mosque And would be considered as harmful to its sanctity and the feelings of Muslims throughout the world.

### Mubarak To Meet With Bush, Others in Tokyo

*NC0502181689 Cairo MENA in English 1725 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Cairo, Feb 5 (MENA)—MENA learnt that President Husni Mubarak will meet during his visit to Tokyo with U.S. President George Bush.

President Mubarak will also meet with French President Francois Mitterrand and other leaders who will attend the funeral of late Japanese Emperor Hirohito.

Mena learnt that President Mubarak will review with President Bush the importance of the U.S. role in this stage regarding peace in the Middle East, notably after the rapprochement between the U.S. and the PLO.

Egyptian-U.S. relations in the economic field will be also tackled by President Husni Mubarak during his meeting with George Bush.

### Mubarak, King Husayn Hold Telephone Conversation

*NC0402201889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1958 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA)—King Husayn of Jordan and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held a telephone conversation this evening. They exchanged views on developments in a number of issues in the region and on the ongoing consultations in this respect.

### Al-Baz Returns From Amman, Makes Statement

*NC0502162689 Cairo MENA in English 1550 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Cairo, Feb 5 (MENA)—Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the President's Office for Political Affairs and first foreign under secretary, returned home this afternoon from Amman following a lightning visit to Jordan.

Al-Baz said upon arrival that he was carrying a message from King Husayn of Jordan to President Husni Mubarak in reply to the message sent by the Egyptian leader to the Jordanian monarch.

Dr Al-Baz said he discussed with King Husayn the recent Arab developments, especially the Palestinian issue and efforts exerted by Egypt, Jordan and the PLO to give impetus to the peace process. He said King Husayn has gone to Baghdad for further talks with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

He added that he also discussed with King Husayn in the Lebanese crisis and the recent developments of the talks over Tabah.

Asked about statements made yesterday by President Mubarak in which he said that Israel obtained the value of the Sonesta Hotel in Tabah during its six-year exploitation of the ferromanganese plant in Abu Zanimah, Sinai, Dr al-Baz said there is a clause in the Camp David agreements stipulating the necessity of compensating for Israel's exploitation of Sinai resources during the occupation period. He added that a committee has been entrusted to study procedures for these compensations.

### IMF Rejects Extension of Reforms Deadline

*PM0602110589 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 31 Jan 89 p 1*

[Muhammad Radwan report: "Egypt-IMF Talks Fail"]

[Text] The recent talks between Egypt and an IMF delegation made no progress. The IMF turned down Egypt's request for an extension of the deadline for implementation of the economic reform policy proposed by the IMF. It also refused to drop its demands for an increase in energy prices and interest rates on deposits and loans.

### Sidqi on New World Bank-IMF Delegation Talks

*NC0502200989 Cairo MENA in English 1812 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Cairo, Feb 5 (MENA)—Premier Dr 'Atif Sidqi today said a joint team representing the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is expected to return here in March to complete discussions regarding certain unfinished issues. In press remarks today Dr Sidqi described talks held recently by the joint team here as positive. The joint World Bank and IMF team left here on Friday following several meetings with different top officials.

Dr Sidqi said directives have been issued to give the initial approval on any project by investors within 48 hours pending the issuance of the new investment law.

## Deputies Seek Wage Increases To Match Prices

*NC0502214689 Cairo MENA in English 2137 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Cairo, Feb 5 (MENA)—Members of the People's Assembly (parliament) appealed to the government here tonight to have the year 1989 as a year of elimination of unemployment in Egypt.

Deputies, taking the floor at an evening session under Speaker Dr Rifa't al-Mahjub, underlined the necessity of raising pensions, salaries and wages in proportion to the price rise and allowing private sector companies to import flour and sugar.

## Petroleum Minister Comments on Oil Production

*JN3101210789 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 27 Jan 89 pp 52-54*

[Interview with chemist 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, by Sana' al-Sa'id; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Sa'id] What about Egyptian reserves today? Is it possible to work on the new basis of quota distribution and determination of production ceilings to be in line with other oil countries such as the OPEC members?

[Qandil] First, we are not OPEC members to determine a production ceiling in accordance with its commitments. Fixing an Egyptian production ceiling, if there is such an orientation at this time, stems from our own convictions in Egypt that such a ceiling is appropriate. Such a ceiling should not put pressure on Egypt's own needs, including the need to pay off national debts or the debts of the petrol sector plus providing a certain income for the Egyptian Treasury. This is what Egypt currently needs.

I think we put all these variables in one equation, and decided to maintain the current production level—namely, between 870,000 and 900,000 barrels per day [bpd]. At the same time, we took into consideration a possible increase in local consumption to cover the ever increasing needs of the electricity sector. In this case, we should increase natural gas production, which constitutes Egypt's real energy reserve.

[Al-Sa'id] Some think Egypt is preparing to export natural gas. Is this true?

[Qandil] There is no inclination at this time to export natural gas, but it is always possible to do so in case of large discoveries, which are not yet on the horizon. I think there are large quantitities of natural gas, but before making a decision, one should make sure that Egypt has enough reserves for its industry and electricity for at least 20 years. We have not yet reached this level. [passage omitted]

[Al-Sa'id] Some circles say that Egypt sells at preferential prices to certain countries that give Egypt exceptional previleges in their oil market.

[Qandil] First of all, we do not deal with countries in the oil market, but with companies in these countries, so that business will not take on a political nature. I stress here that we sell crude oil at the same price to everybody. Nobody is getting preferential prices. Every drop of exported oil is sold for the same price to all companies and parties. [passage omitted]

[Al-Sa'id] The latest Vienna agreement in November was a serious attempt to organize internal OPEC oil affairs. Are there any signs that this policy was put into effect this year?

[Qandil] Certainly, a large part of this policy is successful. The evidence is its effect on oil prices. If we compare current prices with those 3 or 4 months ago, we find an improvement. This reflects the success of the Vienna conference resolutions in November.

[Al-Sa'id] Does this mean that 1989 represents a good beginning for commitment to policies?

[Qandil] Yes. Everybody felt it was a good beginning in 1989.

[Al-Sa'id] OPEC has decided to reduce production from 23 million to 18.5 million bpd. But can it really curb its production and abide by the new figure politically and psychologically?

[Qandil] Necessity knows no law. I think that all are now obliged to benefit from and implement these resolutions. It is now high time we made and followed up long-term policies and plans. We must have stamina and adhere to the strategic aim. I think that confidence is now increasing between us and the OPEC countries. When they announce that they will abide by a 18.5-million bpd ceiling, then they are serious, especially at this stage. The lessons of the past are enough. [passage omitted]

[Al-Sa'id] Some observers believe that the support that the producers outside OPEC can provide for the cartel is only moral and nominal.

[Qandil] If some believe so, then this is their own viewpoint. But our view, which is much in line with that of the OPEC countries, is that there is need to coordinate policies. As evidence, the Soviet Union is currently attending the London conference as an observer. This means that participation and dialogue for the purpose of coordination is genuine. Contrary to the views of those whom you call observers, I think that we have a true value, as we can produce half the amount produced by OPEC.

[Al-Sa'id] What role can the Soviets now play, especially since they have never contributed to OPEC strategy in the markets?

[Qandil] I do not think that the Soviet Union can deal with OPEC, but I think that its concern about OPEC resolutions is enough to be the basis for the beginning of a dialogue, especially since the PRC is there, as well as independent producers from Canada and the United States. The dialogue is harmless. If it produces no results, there will be no loss; if it succeeds, all will benefit. [passage omitted]

### Paper Assails Israeli 'Maltreatment' of Children
*NC0402224089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2146 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA)—AL-AKHBAR newspaper urges various international organizations, foremost amongst which is UNICEF, to intervene swiftly and decisively to stop Israeli practices and the Israeli occupation authorities' hideous treatment of Palestinian children under the age of 13.

In an editorial published in its Sunday edition, the paper reports that the Israeli authorities, as an Israeli lawyer admits, detain these children without trial, keeping them in solitary confinement for several weeks at a time, and assault them by beating and kicking them. The paper adds that the authorities prolong the torture by imposing heavy fines, which the children's guardians are incapable of paying.

The paper notes that all international laws provide for special treatment of minors, and prohibit their imprisonment or maltreatment when arrested, even if they have committed murder. The paper says that only Israel treats children so heinously. Such methods, the paper concludes, are no longer used in the 20th century, except in the prisons and detention camps of a state which claims to be an oasis of democracy in the Middle East.

### Paper Calls for Upgrading U.S.-PLO Dialogue
*NC0502083989 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2143 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA)—AL-AHRAM newspaper has called on various parties to the Palestinian issue to make great reforms in their relations with one another and to expedite their peripheral contacts. In this way, the paper states, their ties will be better suited to handle the forthcoming developments.

In its editorial in Sunday's edition, the paper says that, regarding U.S.-Palestinian relations, the new administration in Washington should upgrade the level of representation in the U.S.-PLO dialogue to explore new horizons in their relations. After Europe picked up the string of dialogue from the United States and began its own dialogue at the level of foreign ministers, the paper points out, it is not commendable that the United States fails to upgrade the level of the dialogue, which was of its own making.

The paper says that the U.S. measure should also extend to creating balanced U.S.-Israeli relations so that its positive mediation role is strengthened and U.S. credibility is established.

Regarding inter-Arab relations, the paper rejects Egypt's continued absence from the Arab summit, particularly after an almost unanimous Arab decision was made on the need for Egypt's swift return to face the current and future stages.

The paper concludes by noting the development of Palestinian-Israeli relations through unofficial contacts. It points out that there are numerous spheres open for mutual moves among the various parties, and each party should contribute to making such moves.

## Libya

### Lambsdorff Says U.S. Computer in Chemical Plant
*AU0602120989 Hamburg WELT AM SONNTAG in German 5 Feb 89 p 1*

["R" report: "U.S. Computer in Al-Rabitah?"]

[Excerpt] Bonn—According to FDP Chairman Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the central processing unit of the disputed Libyan chemical plant in Al-Rabitah is of U.S. origin.

Lambsdorff allegedly told Saarland radio: "Not only German but also other foreign companies were involved. According to reports, the central processing unit in Al-Rabitah has been produced in the United States."

Despite this fact, however, it will be necessary for us "to improve our export controls and to punish those more severely who violate the existing laws," Lambsdorff stressed. [passage omitted]

### Saudis Warned Not To Allow Mecca Confrontation
*LD0302213389 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2010 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] Tripoli, Feb 3 (TANJUG)—Libya today warned Saudi authorities of incalculable consequenses if the holy places of Mecca and Medina are allowed to become a scene for the activities of and confrontations between rival religious groups during the forthcoming pilgrimage.

The warning comes at a time when Libya is witnessing an intensification of anti-regime activities by the fundamentalist Muslim brothers and the Wahabi Movement.

The Wahabi Movement was founded in what is today Saudi Arabia in the early 18th century. Its current activity is therefore believed to be financed by the Saudis.

Libyan authorities recently arrested a self-proclaimed khalif who preached the extremely conservative religious ideas of the Wahabbites among the uneducated masses.

JAMAHIRIYAH, the official organ of the Libyan revolutionary committees, today in a serious tone makes it clear to Saudi Arabia that it must do everything to prevent the activities of such groups during this year's pilgrimage.

If Saudi Arabia cannot guarantee this, the daily underlines, then it has the obligation, at the very least, to enable all streams of thought to find expression, which again threatens to produce incalculable religious, political and social consequences.

It has been learned that Libyan authorities have decided to substantially restrict the number of pilgrims to Mecca this year.

## Kuwait

### KUNA Cites Shaykh Sabah on Lebanon Talks

*LD0402185189 Kuwait KUNA in English 1701 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[By Salih Nazal]

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 4 (KUNA)—Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad returned home Saturday from Damascus.

Shaykh Sabah headed in Tunisia last Sunday meetings of the six-member Arab League Committee on Lebanon after which he headed for brief visits to Egypt and Syria and conveyed amiri messages to presidents of both countries.

Shaykh Sabah announced, in a statement to KUNA at the airport, that he was met with full understanding on the part of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad during the meeting with him earlier today in Damascus. Al-Asad expressed his "complete support to the committee's work," the deputy premier underlined.

He renewed thanks, on behalf of Arab foreign ministers, members of the committee and in his name, to Lebanese Parliament Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, Acting Premier Dr. Salim al-Huss, and head of the temporary military government, Michel 'Awn, for their full cooperation with the committee and for their proposals and opinions that helped the committee complete its first stage.

He added that the six-man committee, in the next stage, will invite other parties starting with leaders of major sects in Lebanon to Kuwait for a meeting with the committee members under the Arab League banner. Shaykh Sabah said that the committee will review with them preliminary achievements of the committee, benefit from their viewpoints and secure their backing for the committee.

The deputy premier and foreign minister, meanwhile, said that his trip to Cairo was in response to an invitation from his Egyptian counterpart, Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. "I was honored during the visit to meet President Husni Mubarak who entrusted me with a message to h.h. the amir," Shaykh Sabah added.

He reviewed stages of the committee's meetings in Tunis which started last January 28 with preliminary deliberations that outlined the method of its work to help it find a solution to the Lebanese crisis.

Shaykh Sabah said that the committee held another meeting the following day with Lebanese parties, Husayni, Dr. al-Huss and 'Awn. He explained that the committee, after listening to each party's view of the Lebanese crisis and means of settling it, met and reached a preliminary speculation on how to handle that problem.

The committee agreed to continue efforts by meeting with other Lebanese parties in an attempt to find a solution to all dimensions of the problem, the Kuwaiti chief diplomat elaborated. He described as beneficial the committee's meeting with brothers in Syria to brief them on the committee's deliberations.

Shaykh Sabah was received on arrival back home by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, Foreign Undersecretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, Egyptian and Lebanese ambassadors to Kuwait, Sayyed Rifaat and 'Adnan Badra, in addition to heads of departments and senior officials in the Foreign Ministry.

### AL-QABAS on Israeli 'Plot' To Attack Iraq

*JN0402161889 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 3 Feb 89 p 1, 19*

[By the diplomatic editor]

[Text] AL-QABAS has obtained new information on an Israeli plan to attack Iraq, on the allegation that it possesses chemical and biological weapons. This information confirmed that the Israeli plan has surpassed the conceptual phase to the planning phase, in which experts in the Air Force, military intelligence, and special operations, took part.

The informed sources have affirmed to AL-QABAS that the Israeli plan to carry out a direct attack against Iraq comes after Iraq's historic victory in the Gulf war and its' political and military achievements.

These sources pointed out that Israel considered the continuation of the Gulf war a strategic goal to ensure the exhaustion of Iraq and its defeat. But Iraq emerged victorious and Israel realized the extent of the loss it suffered.

Israel tried to instigate world public opinion against Iraq on the allegation that it uses chemical weapons and so forth. But it failed and Iraq remained strong and kept enjoying broad international sympathy and understanding. The sources pointed out that the Iraqi victory has also strengthened Arab solidarity and deprived Israel of a very strong weapon—that is, to try to spark international conflicts. The sources also said that from the attack it premeditates against Iraq, Israel aims to do the following:

1. Cover its dangerous internal security and economic deterioration.

2. Cover the increasing differences among Zionist parties and groupings inside and outside Israel on the nature of relations between the Arabs and the Palestinian state.

3. Divert attention away from the Palestinian uprising and Israel's desire to destroy it.

### AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM on Syrian Role in Lebanon

*JN0502105489 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 3 Feb 89 p 1, 23*

[Editorial: "Lebanon: Damascus Is the Gateway to the Solution"]

[Text] What has been achieved in Tunis through the six-member Arab committee comes within the Arab efforts exerted for years to decrease the anxiety of our Lebanese brothers. This took the form of reminding the parties to the conflict of, or inviting them to think about, the fate of the Lebanese homeland in light of the ebb and flow between East and West, the detente atmosphere in international relations, and the sudden transformations brought about by this atmosphere in most hotbeds and disputes such as Afghanistan, Angola, and the Iran-Iraq war.

It is not logical that the two poles approach each other, despite their political and ideological differences, while Lebanon stands out as a salient case symbolizing all the contradictions: Lebanese, Arab, and international. When there is talk about the need to establish a strategic Arab dimension to support the uprising and direct political lines in order to gain more support for the Palestine question on the international level, then it is impossible to imagine establishing such a bulwark before confronting the solution and dealing with the worries, sufferings, and difficult crises of the Lebanese people.

This does not mean that the solution is near. The crisis in Lebanon is part and parcel of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Lebanon, due to its political structure, formation, and geographical distribution, is linked to surrounding situations. This state of affairs was reflected in one way or another on the Lebanese institutions during the economic boom in the sixties, during the war years, in the mid-seventies, and after that.

Therefore, one can safely say that the strategy controlling the conflict with the Israeli enemy, whether in peace or in war, will not stop reckoning with the Lebanese issue. This is precisely what makes relations between Syria and Lebanon historic and special in almost every area.

The biggest proof of this is that the majority of those who dealt with the Lebanese crisis—the solutions and initiatives—have failed or preferred to withdraw and retreat halfway. This happened with Syria when it organized the Geneva and Lausanne meetings between the Lebanese leaders at the beginning of the war, just as what happened to the Americans, the French, and during the Israeli invasion of the Lebanese territories in 1982. All these initiatives had very little effect on the parties to the dispute known for their extremism, clinging to privileges and gains, and the attempts by some to gain the upper hand over their brothers by using foreigners.

We should not forget that despite all the difficult circumstances, Syria always remained calm and collected, understood the Lebanese structure, and realized that the solution, in the final analysis, must come from the Lebanese themselves. The Arab umbrella can never provide a substitute for this solution so long as the wills of all the leaderships functioning in Lebanon do not agree on finding ways out and cutting channels which allow the mediators to progress and achieve some success. With all that in mind, Syria remains the country closest to and most understanding of the Lebanese crisis. Any possible solution should pass through Syria. Syria's opinion should always be considered and it should have a supportive and reassuring stand.

## Saudi Arabia

### Eastern Region Governor Receives Salah Khalaf

*LD0402162889 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1439 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Excerpt] Al-Dammam, 4 Feb (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad ibn Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of the Eastern Region, received Salah Khalaf, Fatah Movement Central Committee member, this afternoon.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy governor of the Eastern Region, and by Rafiq Shakir al-Natshah, ambassador of the State of Palestine to the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

## United Arab Emirates

### French President Arrives on Short Visit

*JN0402070289 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0645 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Dubayy, 4 Feb (WAKH)—French President Francois Mitterrand arrived in Dubayy this morning on a visit of several hours to the UAE on his way home from India. He was received at Dubayy International Airport by Minister of Defense Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum and a number of senior UAE officials.

### Departs After 'Several Hours'

*JN0402122489 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] French President Francois Mitterrand arrived in the country today on a visit lasting several hours on his way home from India.

He was received at Dubayy International Airport by Defense Minister His Highness Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum, a number of shaykhs and ministers, and the French ambassador to the UAE, Robert Colin Boverder.

The French president is accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising the foreign minister and a number of ministers.

The French president paid tribute to the president, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, and his brother, Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, vice president and prime minister.

In a statement upon departure, President Mitterand thanked Defense Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rasid al-Maktum and said he was pleased to meet his highness and discuss bilateral relations, the overall situation in the region, and other issues of common concern, including the Middle East crisis.

The French president said he was also delighted to stop over in the UAE on his way home, indicating that this visit paves the way for other visits because of the strong and friendly relations between the UAE and France. He stressed that the cooperation of the two countries will enable them to solve and tackle many regional and international issues of mutual concern.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum welcomed the French president and said he was pleased to receive President Mitterand in the UAE. His highness asserted the strong relations between the UAE and France in all fields.

The French president and his delegation left the country at 1100 following a visit to the UAE lasting 3 hours, during which he was accompanied by Defense Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum on a tour of touristic and historical sites in Dubayy. The tour also included Khawr Dubayy, where the French president expressed appreciation for the prosperity and progress achieved by the state.

The French president was seen off by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum and a number of shaykhs, ministers, senior officials, and the French ambassador to the UAE.

### Trade Minister Receives GDR Trade Official

*JN0502161489 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1448 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Feb (WAKH)—Sayf al-Jarwan, UAE minister of economy and trade, today conferred with a GDR delegation led by Claus-Dieter Gaedt, deputy foreign trade minister.

After the meeting, Al-Jarwan said that the talks focused on rejuvenating commercial exchanges, economic cooperation, and joint investment ventures.

Claus-Dieter Gaedt conveyed an invitation on behalf of the GDR's foreign trade minister for Al-Jarwan to visit the country and attend the Leipzig international fair—a semiannual event in September and March.

### TV To Begin Transmission From Al-Shariqah

*JN0302204889 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] Al-Shariqah, 3 Feb (WAKH)—UAE Television from Al-Shariqah will begin experimental transmission to coincide with the beginning of the activities of the fifth child education festival—to start tomorrow.

As of Saturday, 11 February, the television station will relay live the events of the carnival at the Al-Ittihad Stadium in Al-Shariqah. The experimental transmission will be carried daily at 1900 on Channel 22 for Al-Shariqah city and the neighboring amirates; on Channel 57 for the eastern region, Khawr Fakkan; and on Channel 28 for Al-Fujayrah and Kalba.

## Yemen Arab Republic

### Syrian Prime Minister Arrives on Visit 5 Feb

*JN0502145789 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Excerpts] Sanaa—Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi arrived in Sanaa at noon today leading an official and technical delegation on an official and cordial visit of several days to the YAR in response to an invitation from YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani. [passage omitted]

In an arrival statement to journalists, the prime minister said: I, along with my delegation, am very happy for this visit to the YAR, a fraternal country, at the invitation of my brother, Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani. This visit is part of the sincere, strong, sisterly relations between President Hafiz al-Asad and President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. It also falls within the framework of fraternal relations between the Syrian and Yemeni peoples.

The prime minister added: Such meetings between the Arab brothers must be in the interests of both sisterly countries. Through the prepared program, such meetings will help enhance the exchange of experience and the coordination of efforts in order to serve the two peoples' interests.

Al-Zu'bi said: Certainly, we will hold important talks with my brother, the YAR prime minister, as well as other Yemeni officials on issues concerning the promotion of relations between our two countries on the path of completing and expanding what we began in Damnascus. This will be positively reflected on cooperation and will increase cohesion between the two fraternal peoples. Concluding his statement, the prime minister greeted the YAR people and valued the achievements that have been and are being realized under brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

### Confers With Prime Minister

*JN0502210089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Sanaa—YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani this evening received Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi and held a cordial talk with him. Following this, a round of talks was held within the framework of the higher Syrian-Yemeni joint committee meetings.

The Syrian side was headed by Mr al-Zu'bi and the YAR by Mr 'Abd al-Ghani. On the Syrian side, the talks were attended by Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade; Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Dr Muhammad Marwan al-Farra, minister of construction and building.

On the YAR side, the talks were attended by Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, deputy prime minister, minister of development, and head of the central planning department; Eng 'Abdallah al-Kurshumi, minister of public works and transportation; 'Abd al-Wahab Mahmud, minister of economy, supply, and trade; Hasan Ahmad al-Lawzi, minister of information and culture; Dr Nasir al- 'Awlaqi, minister of agriculture and fisheries; and 'Abd al-Hadi al-Hamadani, YAR ambassador in Damascus.

At the beginning of the session, Mr 'Abd al-Ghani welcomed Mr al-Zu'bi and his delegation. He underlined the firm fraternal relations between the two peoples and countries and the need to promote and boost them in all fields and at all levels. 'Abd al-Ghani explained the YAR's achievements and developments after the revolutions of 23 September and 14 October, especially under the leadership of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. These achievements cover all economic, social, and cultural fields.

He expressed confidence that relations between the two fraternl countries under Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih will be developed and strengthened in the interests of the two brotherly peoples and countries and the movement of common Arab action. Concluding his speech, 'Abd al-Ghani paid tribute to Syria's achievements under President Hafiz al-Asad, especially in the field of economic and social development, although it stands in the front line confronting the Zionist enemy and defending the Arab land and the rights and causes of the nation.

After this, Al-Zu'bi expressed his gratitude and that of his delegation for the good reception and generous hospitality they had been accorded. He underlined the sincere brotherly feelings of the Syrian Arab people toward the Yemeni Arab people and the strong ties between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, which reflected the constant development of relations between the two countries. Al-Zu'bi pointed out the identity of views of the two sisterly countries on the various issues and the constant coordination and exchange of views on Arab and international issues. He praised the great achievements of the brotherly Yemeni people under the leadership of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. He explained Syrian achievements and developments under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad and stressed the need to devote Arab resources to the service of comprehensive development. He pointed out Syria's continuous endeavor to unify efforts and establish effective Arab solidarity in the service of common Arab action.

During the session, the agenda was reviewed, and it was decided that the technical committees will continue its meetings to discuss topics on the agenda. 'Abd al-Ghani then held a dinner banquet in honor of Al-Zu'bi. The dinner was attended by members of the two delegations and a number of senior guests.

### Calls on President Salih

*JN0602142489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Sanaa—YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih received Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi this morning. Present were YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani and the delegations attending the meetings of the joint Syria-YAR committee.

### PFLP's George Habash Arrives for Talks

*JN0502175389 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash arrived in Sanaa this afternoon on a visit of several days to our country. During the visit, he will hold talks with the brother officials on the latest developments in the Palestine question.

In a statement to SABA' news agency, Dr Habash voiced pleasure at visiting our country, explaining that he will discuss with the brother officials the Palestinian situation following the proclamation of the Palestinian state and ways to turn this proclamation into a reality by establishing a Palestinian state on Palestinian soil. He pointed out that his talks will also touch on overall Arab issues to unify Arab efforts and support the Palestinian revolution so it will be able to realize all its objectives.

Concluding his statement, Dr Habash explained that he will also discuss the militant relations between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions. He was received by brothers Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, Consultative Council member and secretary of the Standing Committee; Muhammad Shahir, Standing Committee member; and a number of brother officials in the Standing Committee's secretariat.

### Libyan Minister Arrives for Joint Meetings

*JN0602070689 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Dr Muhammad Lutfi Farhat, secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, arrived in Sanaa last night leading a delegation to attend the meetings of the preparatory committee for the third session of the higher Yemeni-Libyan joint committee to begin in Sanaa in the next few days.

In a statement to SABA', brother Farhat said that the preparatory committee will prepare the working program of the third session of the higher joint committee. He added that the meetings of this session will produce good results that will open new horizons for bilateral cooperation in the interest of the Arab people in the two sisterly countries.

## INA Cites Perez de Cuellar Report on Talks

*JN0402211989 Baghdad INA in English 1850 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] United Nations, Feb. 4, INA—In a report to the Security Council, issued yesterday, U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said that the ceasefire that went into effect on Aug. 20 last year constituted only a first step towards a negotiated settlement of the Iraq-Iran conflict as demanded by Security Council Resolution 598.

The secretary-general said that the subsequent direct talks in New York and Geneva between the foreign ministers of the two countries under his auspices were aimed at "reaching a common understanding of the other provisions of the resolution and the procedures and timings for their implemention".

Mr. Perez de Cuellar said that it was "in this spirit" that the talks have been conducted under his auspices and those of his personal representative, Ambassador Jan Eliasson, since his appointment on Sept. 1.

The secretary-general told the council that he believed that "it is still possible" to reach with the two parties a common understanding.

"My efforts and those of my personal representative have been intensive and uninterrupted since the ceasefire came into effect," the report continued. "Throughout the past few months, we have worked continuously in order to develop the basis for mutual trust and at the same time to overcome the major issues of divergency. We have also continued to explore different procedures which might best serve the peace process."

The implementation of the resolution will bring peace to both countries and contribute to security and stability in the region as a whole.

Speaking of the need to look at the resolution in "a wider context" in order to acheive its goals, the secretary-general stressed that the resolution "has to be implemented in confirmity with the principles of international law as it pertains to respect [word indistinct] territorial inegrity, non-acquisition of territory by force, the inviolability of internationally recognized boundaries and non-interference in internal affairs of other states."

Similarly, he said, the implementation "requires that restoration of normality be allowed as soon as possible. Both countries should benefit fully from the fruits of peace at the earleist possible time. Pragmatic arrangements, particularly with regard to the economic life of the two countires, may well be needed to hasten the return to normality."

Mr. Perez de Cuellar said that he and Ambassador Eliasson are ready to assist the parties "in the same spirit that moved the Security Council when it unanimously adopted Resolution 598."

Meanwhile, the secretary-general said, "It will be clear to the members of the Security Council that the continued presence of the United Nations Iraq-Iran Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) is "an essential condition" for further progress towards the full implementation of Resolution 598.

He said both parties have assured him of their support for UNIIMOG and of their agreement that its mandate should be extended. "I accordingly recommend to the Security Council that the mandate be renewed" and that the mandate be renewed and the renewal should be for a period of 7 months and 22 days—until Sept. 30, 1989.

## 'Aziz Departs for Talks With Perez de Cuellar

*JN0602105089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Feb (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left for New York today for talks with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 598.

'Aziz had sent a letter to Javier Perez de Cuellar expressing Iraq's readiness to respond to the invitation for the resumption of direct negotiations between it and Iran at a date to be set by the UN secretary general.

## Reportage on Visit of Jordan's King Husayn

### Arrives 5 Feb

*JN0502161089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1546 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 5 Feb (INA)—His Majesty King Husayn arrived in Baghdad this afternoon on an official visit to Iraq. He was given an official reception, and President Saddam Husayn headed those who received him at the airport. [passage omitted]

Following a brief rest in the airport's VIP lounge, President Saddam Husayn and His Majesty King Husayn had a cordial conversation and then traveled to his majesty's place of residence in an official motorcade. His Majesty King Husayn is accompanied by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Royal Hashemite Court Chief al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir.

### Holds Talks With President

*JN0502190889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1836 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Feb (INA)—President Saddam Husayn and His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan held a round of talks on the close relations between the two fraternal countries. The talks also dealt with current negotiations between Iraq and Iran to implement Resolution No 598 and bring about peace between the two countries.

President Saddam Husayn explained to His Majesty King Husayn the latest developments in these negotiations as well as the obstacles Iran is placing in the way of implementation of Resolution No 598. The two leaders then discussed joint Arab action and the need to promote it to serve the higher interests of the Arab nation and its countries.

The talks touched on the latest developments in the Palestine question as well as the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of their own independent national state. They discussed the Lebanese problem and the Arab League's efforts to resolve it to guarantee the Lebanese people's rights and the establishment of a constitutional and legitimate government in Lebanon.

The talks were attended on the Iraqi side by Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister and RCC member; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and the Iraqi ambassador to Iraq. On the Jordanian side, the talks were attended by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

### Attends 2d Round of Talks

*JN0502205089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Feb (INA)—President Saddam Husayn and His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan held a second round of talks to complete discussion of the subjects raised during the first round.

The second round of talks was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister and RCC member; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Husayn Kamil Hasan, minister of industry and military industrialization; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman. It was also attended on the fraternal Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

## SFRY President, Delegation Make Official Visit

### Visitors Arrive 4 Feb

*JN0402103889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1010 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 4 Feb (INA)—SFRY President Raif Dizdarevic arrived here at noon today on an official visit to Iraq. The SFRY president was accorded an official reception led by President Saddam Husayn. Also present were RCC members Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, vice president; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; a number of ministers; and the head of the honor mission accompanying the guest president. [passage omitted]

The SFRY president is accompanied by Janez Zemljaric, vice president of the Federal Executive Council, and Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs.

### Ramadan, Zemlajric Confer

*JN0402123089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Feb (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met here today with Janez Zemljaric, vice president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council. An official source said that during their meeting Ramadan and Zemlajaric affirmed that relations between Iraq and the SFRY will witness a large-scale development in the coming stage out of the concern of the two countries' officials to promote these relations to an advanced level in all fields.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the march of developing relations between the two countries. They also reiterated their determination to find new horizons to expand these relations in the economic, trade, and technical fields.

### President Meets Dizdarevic

*JN0402152589 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1405 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Feb (INA)—President Saddam Husayn and SFRY President Raif Dizdarevic held a round of bilateral talks here today on the close relations between Iraq and the SFRY and on ways to promote them in all areas. President Saddam Husayn explained to the guest president developments in negotiations between Iraq and Iran and Iraq's firm and principled desire to reach a comprehensive and lasting peace in accordance with international law and the principles of the UN Charter. He also explained Iran's obstacles to hamper the negotiations, its nonabidance to Resolution No 598, and its violation of international law and international agreements, especially the Third Geneva Convention concerning POW's.

The talks also dealt with the Nonaligned Movement. The two sides agreed to take joint action to make the forthcoming summit conference of the nonaligned countries—to be held in Belgrade next September—a success. They agreed to work to make the Nonaligned Movement more effective in dealing with issues of interest to the nonaligned countries and with international developments.

The talks also touched on the regional situation, especially ways to support the just cause of the Palestinian people. The SFRY president began an official visit to Iraq today at the head of an SFRY delegation.

## Dizdarevic Discusses Palestine

*JN0402162489 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1518 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Feb (INA)—SFRY President Raif Dizdarevic has said that the SFRY-Iraqi relations are growing very well, are deep-rooted, and have undergone a long test. In a statement to INA, he said that he was very pleased to meet with his dear friend President Saddam Husayn. He added: We held talks as friends and assessed SFRY-Iraqi relations and the fruitful cooperation and close friendship the two countries deserve. He said that the talks also dealt with what can be done now as well as in the future regarding SFRY-Iraqi cooperation. He said his talks with President Saddam Husayn further deepened SFRY-Iraqi relations and future bilateral cooperation will increase because it is cooperation between friends. He expressed confidence that SFRY-Iraqi relations will grow and bilateral cooperation will be limitless.

The SFRY president also affirmed that his countries' position on the Palestine question has never changed and there will be a solution to the Palestine question only if the Palestinian right to self-determination is recognized and an independent Palestinian state is established. He added that the world has sensed the need to find a solution on the basis of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. He also said: We have to use every way through bilateral relations, the Nonaligned Movement, or the United Nations in order to achieve this goal. He also affirmed that relations between the SFRY and the PLO are very close.

## 'Aziz Confers With Loncar

*JN0402194889 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Budimir Loncar, SFRY federal secretary for foreign affairs, today. They discussed bilateral relations and ways to promote them in all areas. They stressed the need to coordinate the joint positions between the two friendly countries. The talks also dealt with the latest developments regarding the implementation of Security Council Resolution No 598 for 1987 and the situation in the region in light of recent developments and issues of common interest. The meeting was attended by the two Foreign Ministry under secretaries, the head of the first international department at the Foreign Ministry, the Iraqi ambassador in Belgrade, and the guest minister's delegation.

## Cooperation Minutes Signed

*JN0402205889 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Iraq and the SFRY signed the joint minutes for economic, trade, and technical cooperation between the two countries. The minutes, which were signed for Iraq by Muhammad Mahdi Salih, Iraqi minister of trade affairs, and for the SFRY by Janez Zemljaric, vice president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, stipulate that the SFRY companies will implement the phases of a number of industrial and irrigational projects in Iraq. They also include an agreement to hold the Iraqi-SFRY joint committee in Baghdad next May.

## Papers Attack Al-Sabah Statement on Lebanon

*JN0402145189 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Iraqi papers today launched a violent attack against the Kuwaiti foreign minister because he told the Kuwaiti papers yesterday that the Syrian forces in Lebanon should not be regarded as foreign forces. The Iraqi papers called his statements flattery that has nothing to do with facts.

This Iraqi media attack comes only 2 days before the visit to Baghdad by Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister.

## AL-THAWRAH Cited on Arab 'Economic Bloc'

*JN0402130089 Baghdad INA in English 1248 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Baghdad, Feb. 4, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily of Baghdad said that current negotiations for establishing an Arab economic bloc comprising Egypt, Jordan, Yemen Arab Republic and Iraq confirm that the new Arab step would start with economy, the realistic basis for any unitary project.

A daily article here today stressed that formula of the Arab economic bloc, in its orientation, is similar to that of the Gulf and Arab Maghreb countries... all these formulas are the stepping board for a real stage of joint Arab action.

It added that the new Arab economic gathering is open before other Arab countries desiring to join it.

It pointed out that coordination among the four countries reached advanced levels with trade exchange between Egypt and Iraq registering 500 million dollars in addition to a host of joint agricultural projects between Iraq and Yemen and Jordan and Yemen.

## IDF Kills 5 'Terrorists' in South Lebanon

*TA0502095389 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0930 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Five terrorists were killed before dawn in a clash with an IDF unit in the eastern sector of the security zone. Israeli forces sustained no casualties. More from our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz:

The clash occurred northwest of Hasbayya in the eastern sector. An IDF unit patrolling in the area encountered the terrorist squad, which was moving south into the security zone. The IDF opened fire, killing five terrorists. Our forces sustained no casualties.

IDF attack helicopters hovered over the area this morning to check whether additional terrorists were hiding out. Lots of sabotage material was found near the bodies of the terrorists, who were apparently on their way to carry out attacks in the security zone and on the northern border.

## PFLP, PLF Involved

*TA0502152389 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1430 GMT 5 Feb 88*

[Text] The five terrorists who were killed this morning in a clash with IDF troops in southern Lebanon had been on their way to perpetrate an attack in Israeli territory. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that the terrorists were members of George Habash's PFLP and Tal'at Ya'qub's Palestine Liberation Front. They were found in the possession of LAW missiles, a silencer, a pistol, RPG launchers, knives, and large amounts of food.

## Shamir Comments on Attack

*TA0502210089 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2030 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says he had no doubt the PLO would continue to perpetrate terrorist attacks. Mr Shamir was reacting to the killing of the terrorist squad in the north whose members included PLO men. The prime minister said Israel has not been taken in by the PLO's announcement calling a halt to terrorist actions.

Our correspondent Yaron Deqel reports that talking to journalists at Likud headquarters in Tel Aviv, the prime minister said he had plans concerning the Palestinians, some of which have not yet been published. Asked whether the plans are based on the Camp David accords, the prime minister said he would not deviate from them, but that his reference was not only to those accords. The Camp David accords, Shamir pointed out, are the basis for any plan.

## Arens: U.S. Terms 'Violated'

*TA0602115289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] In Jerusalem this morning, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said that the attempt by PLO terrorists on Saturday night to try and cross the border into Israel on a terror mission shows that they violated the conditions the United States laid down for a dialogue with the organization. Arens was speaking in Jerusalem to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Mark Weiss reports:

Foreign Minister Arens said Israel is aghast at the current phenomena of politicians from around the world traveling to Tunis to, what he called, pay homage to 'Arafat. Arens said PLO terror continues and takes various forms. Three of the terrorists killed by the IDF 2 days ago in Lebanon belong to the PFLP of George Habash—a group that attended the PNC meeting in Algiers and approved its resolutions. Arens said that when the United States began their talks with the PLO, they clearly stated the conditions for the dialogue.

[Begin Arens recording] And these conditions included that there be no further terrorist acts by any branch of the PLO. The day before yesterday we had an example of a terrorist act by a branch of the PLO, and the conditions—as they were set forth by the State Department—have been clearly and unequivocally violated. [end recording]

## Sweden Reportedly Urging 'Arafat-Peres Meeting

*TA0302163689 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 3 Feb 89 pp 1, 7*

[Text] Tunis—Citing diplomatic sources in the Tunisian Government, some Tunisian newspapers have reported on a Finnish-Scandinavian initiative that seeks to arrange a meeting in Copenhagen in spring between Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat and Shim'on Peres, leader of the Israeli Labor Party. This report was carried by the Tunisian newspaper AL-HURRIYAH, as well as by the AL-SIHAFA newspaper which is close to the Tunisian Government.

In a front page article published two days ago, the editor of AL-HURRIYAH said that Swedish parties are working to arrange a meeting at the highest level between the PLO and Israel. According to the newspaper, the efforts of these official parties have met with success, especially following the successful meeting in Stockholm between Mr 'Arafat, Mahmud Darwish, and Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh on one side, and American Jewish figures influential in the Zionist lobby in the United States on the other.

The newspaper, which says that it is citing reliable sources, points out that the parties concerned have reached agreement with Mr 'Arafat and Shim'on Peres, leader of the Israeli Labor Party and finance minister, for a meeting in May.

AL-SIHAFA reported that Mr 'Arafat received the same invitation as was sent to an official Israeli delegation representing the Israeli Labor Party to visit Copenhagen next spring. This invitation was issued by a Danish minister after obtaining encouraging indications with regard to a Scandinavian-Finnish plan presented to Shim'on Peres 10 days ago.

The paper stresses that there is persistence on the part of Scandinavia to host the international peace conference on the Middle East.

### Arens-Al-Majid Talks Helping Tabah Compromise

*TA0302194889 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] An agreement is emerging on resuming the Tabah talks during the middle of next week with a view toward facilitating the solution to the affair. Today there were intensive contacts between Jerusalem and Cairo, including a telephone conversion between Foreign Minister Arens and his Egyptian counterpart 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. The U.S. mediator Abraham Sofaer, who has left for Washington, assessed that a compromise to the Tabah affair has been found.

### Agreement Signed 4 Feb

*TA0402190889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] An agreement on the Tabah affair was signed in the Foreign Ministry in Cairo this evening. The agreement was signed by Israeli Ambassador to Egypt Shim'on Shamir, U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner, and Nabil al-'Arabi, the head of the Egyptian team to the talks. Our Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a reports that, according to the agreement, Israel undertakes to withdraw from Tabah within a few days, once the controversial issues—the compensation for Israeli assets in the region and entrance arrangements for Israeli tourists—are solved.

Tomorrow, the negotiations will continue in the framework of the work groups with the aim of ending the talks by the end of the month. On 26 February, the three delegations will convene in Tabah to be briefed and to finalize the work carried out by the work groups. The final timetable for Israeli withdrawal from Tabah will be determined on the basis of the work yet to be carried out, as well as of the understandings already achieved.

### Cabinet Meets on Tabah

*TA0502094689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] The foreign minister has said that peace with Egypt is more important than anything else and that he will make every effort to maintain good relations with that country. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Minister Arens' remarks were in reply to a query on the Tabah crisis by Minister Weizman at today's Cabinet meeting. Minister Weizman remarked that time has achieved results, despite our best efforts, and that the Cabinet must give up the principle of direct talks in favor of any talks at all. According to him, it would have been impossible to overcome the recent crisis without help from the United States.

The prime minister added that, although Israel is interested in direct talks, we sometimes avail ourselves of U.S. help, as we did in the Tabah case.

Our correspondent notes that the Cabinet held a brief meeting. The defense and police ministers briefed the Cabinet on activities in the territories.

### Arens Discusses Tabah

*JN0602104689 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens by correspondent Shlomo Ganor carried within the Sunday Newsreel "The Week in 1 Hour"; date and place not given—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles; translated from the Arabic]

[Text] [Ganor] Has the Israeli-Egyptian misunderstanding on the resumption of the Tabah talks been settled?

[Arens] Yes, I believe so. I was very sorry for this misunderstanding. This shows that there always will be an inherent threat to relations between the two countries. However, through the direct contacts I have held with Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, we have succeeded in settling this misunderstanding and in resuming the talks. I hope that all problems will be settled.

[Ganor] Is it something new for the Israeli and Egyptian foreign ministers to speak with one another?

[Arens] I do not know what used to take place previously. I became acquainted with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid in Paris, where we spent several pleasant hours together. I believe we have established a strong personal relationship. This paved the way for my holding telephone contacts with him. He phoned me at home on Friday, and we discussed what had to be discussed.

[Ganor] What are the details of the agreement?

[Arens] We did not discuss the details of the agreement. We discussed the details of the negotiations and the teams that are holding the contacts that will bring about an agreement. I am fully confident of this.

[Ganor] Mr Arens, will the two parties work in accordance with the timetable to complete the negotiations, that is, within a period of 4 weeks?

[Arens] I believe so. I am certain that no problems will arise in this respect.

[Ganor] Can we say that Tabah will be returned to Egyptian sovereignty at the end of these negotiations?

[Arens] The arbitrators decided that Tabah comes under Egyptian sovereignty. Therefore, this area will be handed over to Egyptian rule.

[Ganor] Then why all this hue and cry between Cairo and Jerusalem over the past week?

[Arens] I believe that this is the result of a misunderstanding, or from doubts they have had that we do not intend to withdraw from the area. But at the same time, they as well as us realize that although the arbitrators have decided that the area falls under Egyptian soveriegnty, there are realities in the area such as the [Sonesta] hotel and tourist affairs, and we have to arrange through an agreement between the two parties how sovereignty in the area will be transferred to Egypt without harming tourism in the area, the owners of the hotel, or other related matters. We will find the answer to all this.

[Ganor] Do you expect other obstacles to arise during the negotiations?

[Arens] I hope not. It is difficult for me to be more hopeful than necessary, particularly that there have been obstacles in the past. But I must admit I had not expected them to occur. However, it seems to me that matters are now proceeding smoothly.

[Ganor] Have you obtained guarantees from your Egyptian counterpart Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid?

[Arens] I am certain that there is a sincere desire on the Egyptian side. There is a sincere desire on both sides to end things as best as they can.

[Ganor] Mr Arens, can we say that there is a possibility for Egyptian-Israeli relations to proceed on a sound course, and that the peace between them will not be merely lukewarm, or only a formal peace?

[Arens] This is what we hope. However, this does not depend on us. This depends on the two sides, because one cannot clap with one hand. I believe that at one time, the Egyptians were not enthusiastic about making the lukewarm peace treaty become more active or warm. From our part, we will do what we can to improve, enhance, and promote these relations. But this also depends on the Egyptians.

[Ganor] Do you have the impression that the Egyptian side has a similar desire in this respect?

[Arens] I find it difficult to reply irrefutably to this comprehensive question, particularly in light of the experience of the past years that failed to respond to the aspirations the Israelis had had when they concluded the peace treaty. However, one can only hope.

[Ganor] What do we expect from the peace treaty after the Tabah issue?

[Arens] We want to establish relations between the two countries on various levels, relations between the two countries' leaders, parliamentarians, tourists, businessmen, and academicians. If such relations are established, they will serve the interests of both Egypt and Israel.

[Ganor] On a personal level, you have renewed the telephone contacts that used to exist between Jerusalem and Cairo. Will using the telephone become a custom.

[Arens] I believe that since we have started using the telephone—a not-so-new invention which has been in use over the past 100 years—there will no longer be any problem. I, or the Egyptian foreign minister will not hesitate to lift the receiver at any moment we believe there is a need for direct contact.

[Ganor] Had there been such telephone contact, the Egyptians would not have made their recent utterances?

[Arens] It is difficult for me to say whether this is true or not. Perhaps this is true.

[Ganor] But in spite of all this, these statements were made?

[Arens] We voiced regret over the statements. I believe they were based on a misunderstanding.

[Ganor] Has President Mubarak's letter to you contributed to the settlement of the problem?

[Arens, nodding]

[Ganor] Can you tell us what it contained?

[Arens] The letter expressed a sincere desire and confidence that problems can be solved on the basis of these two factors.

[Ganor] Is this enough?

[Arens] This is enough for me.

[Ganor] Thank you.

## Netanyahu Orders Eban Snubbed for PLO Contacts

*TA0502084789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Feb 89 p 1*

[Report by Menahem Shalev]

[Excerpt] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu last week instructed Israel's Ambassador to Holland to refuse to host Abba Eban at a dinner at his house because of Eban's participation in last week's conference with PLO officials.

A spokesman for Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said that Netanyahu's decision had the full backing of the minister. The spokesman said the decision was prompted by the fact that Eban ignored the recommendation of both the Embassy and the Foreign Ministry not to participate in the conference.

The spokesman said the Foreign Ministry is not boycotting Eban, and would be happy to host the former foreign minister in any other context. The instruction to Ambassador Ze'ev Sufot, they said, was made so that there would be no room for speculation that the Foreign Ministry was giving its seal of approval to any sort of meetings with officials of the PLO. [passage omitted]

## Shamir: We Will Never Agree to Palestinian State

*TA0502202089 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated a short time ago that the Israeli Government will unequivocally tell the United States and the European countries that it will never agree to the establishment of a Palestinian state on the territory of Eretz Yisra'el. Mr Shamir was addressing a Likud rally held in the Likud headquarters in Tel Aviv this evening. Our correspondent Hanan 'Azran reports on his remarks.

[Begin Shamir videorecording] We have been telling them, and after the local elections on 28 February, we will tell them more firmly: It is no use, Israel is not in anybody's pocket. [applause] Israel remains faithful to its objectives and goals. [applause] Here, in Eretz Yisra'el, we will establish a free Jewish state. A foreign state will never be established here; a Palestinian state will never be founded here. [applause]

There is no power in the world that can give us orders, force us to behave otherwise, or pressure us. The State of Israel, or to be more specific, the current Israeli Government is not subject to, will not pay heed to, and will not succumb to any pressure. [applause]

The time has come, regardless of whether it is before or after elections, for the world to know that when mention is made of Eretz Yisra'el—the land that in foreign atlases is called Palestine but originally derives its name, Eretz Yisra'el, from the holy Bible—that this land is tied by thousands of threads woven over thousands of years with one people, the Israeli people, the Jewish people. The name of Eretz Yisra'el is currently mentioned in connection with foreigners, PLO terrorists, and others, but these are brutal, feral, and foreign invaders. Eretz Yisra'el belongs to the Israeli people, and to the Israeli people alone. [applause] [end videorecording]

## Further on Incidents, Casualties in Territories

### Further on 2 Feb Incidents

*TA0302150589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Jan 89 pp 1, 14*

[Report by Joel Greenberg and Mikhal Sela']

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] A 17-year old from the village of Bayt Surik, near Hebron, was admitted to East Jerusalem's Al-Maqasid Hospital yesterday with a gunshot wound in the head, hospital officials said. However, military sources said the youth was lightly injured when he was hit in the head by a tear-gas canister. According to reports from Bayt Surik, clashes erupted when four houses were demolished in the village on grounds that they had been built without a permit.

In clashes at the Balatah refugee camp in Nabulus, a 16-year-old was wounded in the leg and a 20-year-old suffered beating injuries in the face, according to local reports.

Former Nabulus mayor Hafiz Tuqan, who resigned several months ago, said troops and tax officials raided his soap factory, breaking into the building and confiscating documents. Tuqan charged that the action was the latest in a series of harassments by the authorities designed to pressure him into returning to his post. Other pressure has included a ban on exports of his soap products to Jordan, he said.

At Dayr Ballut, east of Rosh Ha'ayin, settlers tried to enter the village to retaliate after three of their vehicles were stoned, according to local reports. Villagers set up barricades and burned tyres as youths held a military-style march and raised Palestinian flags, the reports said. The IDF uprooted more than 100 olive trees near the village as punishment for the stone-throwing, according to villagers. Several confrontations between settlers and villagers have been reported at Dayr Ballut this week.

Villagers at Iraq Burin, near Nabulus, said that three local shepherds were hospitalized with beating injuries after they were attacked by club-wielding settlers. The settlers also shot and killed a sheepdog, villagers claimed. The Ramallah military court sentenced three Bayt Sahur residents to a week in jail and fined them NIS (New Israeli Shekels) 400 after nationalist graffiti were found on the walls of their homes. They were convicted of refusing to erase the slogans but Bayt Sahur residents said the three had been arrested immediately without being asked to erase the graffiti.

Also in Ramallah, soldiers uprooted trees on property owned by St. George's Greek Orthodox Church, according to George Mahlouf, the church's priest. The IDF could not comment on the report. [passage omitted].

The Gaza Strip was quiet yesterday with only scattered clashes between Palestinians and troops, dispersed mainly by teargas. Palestinians reported that a dozen children needed medical treatment following the gas attack. Three people were wounded, according to a Palestinian source, one in Gaza, one in Al-Shati' refugee camp and one in Khan Yunus.

The Gaza military court yesterday sentenced Hazim al-Kuma'i, 15, from the Daraj neighbourhood in Gaza, to one year in prison and one year's suspended sentence, and fined him NIS 750 after he confessed to throwing stones at troops.

### Settlers Riot in Arab Town

*TA0402055189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Police and troops last night used tear gas to disperse hundreds of Jewish settlers from Ari'el, who rioted in the Arab village of 'Azzun. At least one settler was arrested, and the car registration numbers of others were noted as they fled the scene. Large number of police and troops were involved in the operation.

The settlers entered the village after a boy from Ari'el was slightly injured by a stone thrown at a car in which he was riding as it passed Sha'are Tiqva. The boy was treated in hospital and was sent home. The police set up roadblocks in an attempt to keep the settlers out of 'Azzun, but the settlers bypassed the checkpoints, entered the village by other routes, and smashed windows and solar heaters. Some of the Arab householders retaliated by throwing stones at the settlers, but a Voice of Israel reporter says no one was injured.

### 1 Killed in Khan Yunus Clash

*TA0402101489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] In Khan Yunus, 15-year-old Allah 'Abdallah Randas was killed in a clash with IDF soldiers following a riot staged by students. The riot ended with a high number of wounded—20 according to Arab sources—including an International Red Cross official.

Our correspondent Hasan Abu Zayyad reports that the youth's brother was killed in a riot several months ago.

### Another Youth Reported Killed

*TA0402122189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Two local youths were killed in a serious incident in Khan Yunus this morning: Allah 'Abdallah Randas, 15; and Ahmad Jawdat Jad al-Haqq, 16. Our correspondent Hasan Abu Zayyad also reports 7 wounded, although Arab sources put the figure at 20. The Khan Yunus incident began with a mass student riot in which IDF soldiers intervened in an attempt to restore order.

In Dayr al-Balah, a local resident was wounded; he was transferred to Tel Hashomer Hospital.

A large-scale riot in Gaza's Falastin Square was dispersed with tear gas.

### Settlers Seize Hebron Houses

*TA0502054489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Report by Shlomo Berger]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] In disturbances last night in Al-Shati' refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, two residents were wounded by army fire.

In Hebron this morning, settlers took control of two abandoned houses from which Molotov cocktails and stones were thrown at the Jewish settlement of Bet Romano. The settlers said the buildings are Jewish property, and they have taken them in protest that the army did not prevent the houses from being used as cover for attacks.

Twelve settlers in Samaria, meanwhile, have been questioned by police in connection with disturbances Friday night at the Arab village of 'Azzun. They allegedly refused to disperse after soldiers moved into the village to remove the settlers. One settler has been arrested for 2 days for allegedly attacking a soldier and breaking his finger. Yesterday, the head of Central Command, General 'Amram Mitzna', visited 'Azzun to investigate the incident. [passage omitted]

A Molotov cocktail was thrown last night at a Jewish vehicle in Samaria. There were no injuries or damage.

[Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 5 February in a page 1 report by Mikhal Sela' adds: "Qalqilyah saw several clashes yesterday between Palestinians and troops. Sixteen-year-old Nidal Husayn was wounded in the waist by a rubber bullet and hospitalized in Nabulus, according to the IDF spokesman. Two other Palestinians were lightly wounded by rubber bullets, according to Palestinian sources."]

### Settlers Evacuate Houses

*TA0502101389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Hebron settlers this morning voluntarily evacuated the two houses near Bet Romano after negotiations with IDF representatives.

It was also reported that the watchman's hut at the ancient Jewish cemetery in Hebron went up in flames last night.

### 'Stiff Sentences' Cause Riots

*TA0502091889 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Feb 89 p 1*

[Report by Ori Nir and Eytan Rabin]

[Excerpts] During yesterday's serious disturbances in the Gaza Strip, 2 youths were killed and 23 people were wounded. [passage omitted]

In Rafah, a 60-year-old man and two youths were wounded. In Dayr al-Balah a woman was shot in the head, and 15-year-old Sami Ustadh was evacuated to Tel Hashomer Hospital after sustaining a serious head injury. Arab sources said that the disturbances in the Gaza Strip were the result of the stiff prison sentences meted out to Gaza city stone throwers.

Few incidents occurred in the West Bank. Yesterday, two children from the village of Tammun near Janin were brought to Al-Ittihad Hospital in Nabulus. The children, who suffered severe burns, said that soldiers in a military vehicle had hurled a burning object at them near Furush-Bayt Dajan, east of their village. Another 8-year-old girl, Na'mat 'Abdallah from Al-Jiftliq, who was hospitalized with severe burns over her entire body, said that a burning object had been thrown at her from a civilian car. The IDF is investigating.

[Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew on 5 February in a page 3 report by Roni Shaqed and Hayim Broida adds: "In reaction, IDF spokesman said yesterday that the children are shepherds from the Samaria village of Tammun who must have been playing with a dud or an explosive charge they had found in the area. Military sources stressed that no IDF activity was conducted and no troops passed in the area in which the children sustained the burns."]

Palestinian sources yesterday reported that a resident of the village of Qaffin near Janin sustained gunshot wounds during disturbances.

Over the weekend, the IDF made several raids on West Bank townships. In some places Israeli cars were stoned and clashes with soldiers occurred. There were no casualties in any of these disturbances.

The Border Police have increased the force's deployment in the territories in a bid to relieve the burden on IDF soldiers, mainly from reserve units. The process will continue for 2 years and will consist mainly of increasing the number of recruits in the Border Police. [passage omitted]

### 10 Hurt in Gaza Clashes

*TA0502112389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] There were disturbances and clashes with security forces in the Gaza Strip today. Sources in Gaza told our correspondent Arye Gus that over 10 people were wounded, some by plastic and rubber bullets, during clashes with soldiers. Military sources told our correspondent that the IDF has not yet received any reports on casualties.

The IDF imposed a curfew today on the Jabalyah refugee camp. The curfew imposed yesterday on the Khan Yunus camp after two youths were killed in a violent clash continues.

### 'Youngster' Killed in Riot

*TA0502152789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] An Arab youngster was killed today in a riot in the Al-Shati' refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. Our correspondent Arye Gus notes that the report of his death was received from Al-Shifa' Hospital and the IDF is looking into the circumstances of his death.

There were disturbances in various locations in the Gaza Strip today, and Arab sources report on 10 people wounded. [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1500 GMT on 5 February adds that "a curfew has been imposed on the Al-Shati' refugee camp."]

### 4 Hurt in Clash With IDF

*TA0502173089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Four local Arabs were wounded in a clash with IDF soldiers in the village of Buruqin in Samaria. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the Army was operating in the village to restore order and paint over graffiti. The casualties were taken to a hospital in Janin and later transferred to Al-Ittihad Hospital in Nabulus. A curfew remains in effect in the Nur al-Shams refugee camp near Tulkarm.

### Hamas Claims Burning of Income Tax Offices

*TA0602085889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] The offices of the Income Tax Commission in Qalqilyah were set on fire last night, and all their contents were burned. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that grafitti painted on nearby walls indicate that Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, has assumed responsibility for the arson. Our correspondent adds that the policy of harassment of government institutions and bodies connected with the Civil Administration has recently intensified.

### Nabulus Hospital Raises Salaries 40 Percent

*TA0502202389 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] The management of Al-Ittihad Hospital in Nabulus has decided to raise the salary of its personnel by 40 percent. Our correspondent Victor Nahmias reports that Al-Ittihad Hospital is the first Arab body in the territories to comply with the call of the Unified National Command of the Uprising to compensate workers for the erosion in the value of the Jordanian dinar and the Israeli shekel.

### King Husayn Leaves for Iraq on 'Working Visit'

*JN0502112689 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn left Amman today for Baghdad on a working visit to fraternal Iraq. His majesty will hold talks with His Excellency President Saddam Husayn within the context of the continuous consultation and coordination between the two Arab leaders to serve the interest and future of the Arab nation.

His majesty was seen off at the airport by Crown Prince Hasan, senior state officials, civilian and military officials, and the Iraqi charge d'affaires in Amman.

His majesty is accompanied on this visit by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Staff Field Marshal Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court. Crown Prince Hasan took the constitutional oath as regent during the king's absence from the homeland.

### Prime Minister Cited on Summit, PLO Ties

*JN0502082489 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0658 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Manama, 5 Feb (WAKH)—Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i has declared Jordan's support for convening the Arab summit at the agreed location—that is, Riyadh. He expressed hope that the summit will lead to a settlement of Arab disputes and the beginning of unified Arab stands.

The Jordanian prime minister said the first article to be presented to the Arab summit will be Egypt's return to the summit and the Arab League.

In an interview with the Bahraini newspaper, AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ, published here today, Al-Rifa'i added that cooperation and coordination between Jordan and the PLO is at its best.

On a question pertaining to reports that he and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat had agreed on forming a confederacy between Jordan and the Palestinian state, Al-Rifa'i said that no such thing was agreed upon and discussion of such an issue is premature. Al-Rifa'i affirmed that there is no power in the world capable of stopping the Palestinian uprising against the occupation.

In answer to a question on the possibilities that Israel will ignite a new war to extricate itself from its current crisis, he said he does not rule out that such ideas could exist among some circles in Israel. However, starting or not starting a war is determined by the Arab deterrent forces.

### Al-Qasim Receives UK Parliamentary Delegation

*JN0502163989 Amman Domestic Service Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received the UK parliamentary delegation—the guest of the parliament—today.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister praised the close ties of friendship between Jordan and Britain. He expressed satisfaction with the developing ties between parliamentary institutions in both countries. He reviewed the Arab approach to the establishment of a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the region, which now constitutes a clear and cohesive Arab stand, particularly following the development of the Palestinian stand—embodied in the recent PNC resolutions stating the PLO's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolutions No 242 and 338 and its recognition of Israel's right to exist.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister briefed the delegation on the dimensions of the Jordanian decision to disengage legal and administrative ties with the West Bank and the importance of this decision in giving prominence to the Palestinian national identity. He referred to the continuation of Israeli intransigence, which still constitutes the only obstacle to achieving a just settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and its crux, the Palestine question.

Attending the meeting were the British ambassador in Amman and the parliament secretary general.

The delegation includes members from the UK Labor and Conservatives Parties.

### Sudanese Defense Minister Meets With Crown Prince

*JN0202150389 Amman Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 2 Feb 89*

[Text] His royal highness the crown prince received this morning the Sudanese defense minister, Mr 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, and the Sudanese chief of staff, General Mahdi Babu Nimr. The visiting guests conveyed to his royal highness the Sudanese people's appreciation for his highness's efforts to send an organized aid to Sudan.

#### Sees Chief of Staff

*JN0202180389 Amman Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 2 Feb 89*

[Text] Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Talib today received Sudanese Defense Minister Mr 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, Sudanese Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Mahdi Babu Nimr, and their accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, they reviewed the military situation in the region as well as bilateral relations.

### Departs With Delegation

*JN0402192589 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Excerpt] Sudanese Defense Minister 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, Lieutenant General Mahdi Babu Nimr, Sudanese chief of staff, and their delegation, left Amman today following an official visit of several days to Jordan. [passage omitted]

## Malaysian Army Chief of Staff Sees Crown Prince

*JN0102143489 Amman Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 1 Feb 89*

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan received in his office today General Tan Sri Hashim, Malaysian Army Chief of Staff. His royal highness praised the excellent friendly relations between Jordan and Malaysia.

On the other hand, the Malaysian guest expressed admiration for the high standard achieved by the Jordanian Armed Forces and Jordan's progress in various fields.

### Departs With Delegation

*JN0102190389 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 1 Feb 89*

[Text] General Tan Sri Hashim, chief of staff of the Malaysian Defense Forces, and his delegation left Amman today after an official visit of several days to Jordan. The Malaysian chief of staff toured a number of military positions and historical sites. He was seen off by Chief of Staff Gen Fathi Abu Talib and a number of his assistants.

## Turkish Chief of Staff, Delegation Depart 4 Feb

*JN0402195189 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Excerpt] Necip Torumtay, chief of staff of the Turkish Armed Forces, his wife, and his delegation, left Amman today following an official visit of several days to Jordan. [passage omitted]

## Canadian Ambassador Presents Locust Aid

*JN0402074089 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 4 Feb 89 p 3*

[Excerpt] Amman (J.T.)—Canadian Ambassador to Jordan, Michael Bell, Thursday presented Minister of Plannning Tahir Kan'an a cheque for JD [Jordanian dinars] 19,800 as a contribution from the Canadian government to Jordan's efforts to combat the danger of desert locusts. [passage omitted]

## Over $50 Million Transferred by Saudi Arabia

*JN0402123389 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Finance Minister Hanna 'Awdah has declared that the government of the sisterly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has transferred to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan the sixth installment of its quota of Arab financial support for 1988. In a statement to PETRA, the finance minister said the installment of $59.5 million was decreed by the Baghdad summit resolutions and reflects the concern of sisterly Saudi Arabia, led by the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, to support its sisterly Arab countries.

## Bank Sets Dollar at 565 Fils Against Dinar

*JN0502093589 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 5 Feb 89 pp 1, 17*

[Text] Amman—The Central Bank of Jordan yesterday set the exchange rate of the U.S. dollar against the Jordanian dinar at 570 fils for the selling price and 565 for the purchase price. With this step, the Central Bank will reduce the gap between the exchange rates in force in the money changers' market and the exchange rates that the Central Bank used to adopt in the past, and which reached 495 fils for the U.S. dollar last Thursday.

The Central Bank has asked commercial banks to deal with their clients within the framework of the exchange rates list that it had set. This is expected to stabilize the local money changers' market.

In a news dispatch last night, PETRA reported that a meeting was held at the Central Bank on Thursday, 2 February 1989, and was attended by representatives of banks and finance companies. The discussion during this meeting dealt with issues related to the dinar's exchange rate against foreign currencies in light of the limited float policy currently in force.

The discussion also focused on the best methods to stabilize exchange rates and the need to avoid harmful speculation.

The confereees expressed their commitment to the Central Bank's directives in this respect. It was also agreed that there will be a declared list of exchange rates that the Central Bank will publish and that will reflect the actual exchange rates in the money market and will secure a continued flow of foreign currencies. The banks and finance companies will abide by this list. The Central Bank will announce this exchange rate list daily through the media.

### Amal's Qabalan: Kidnapping Foreigners 'Forbidden'

*NC0502104289 Paris AFP in English 1021 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Beirut, Feb 5 (AFP)—It is "forbidden" to kidnap foreigners in Lebanon, under an agreement signed last week between two rival Shi'ite Muslim movements, a leading Shi'ite cleric revealed in a statement published here Sunday.

The agreement between the Syrian-backed Amal and the pro-Iranian Hizballah signed January 30 in Damascus also says that "international forces and humanitarian organizations should not be harmed," said Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, a member of Amal's governing body.

Twenty-one Westerners are missing in Lebanon, and 13 of them—nine Americans, three Britons and an Italian—are believed held by pro-Iranian underground groups.

"The agreement stipulates that it will henceforth be forbidden for anyone to abduct foreigners in Lebanon," said Shaykh Qabalan, whose statement was published in the Lebanese press.

Fighting between Amal and Hizballah, which left more than 400 people dead in 10 months, erupted shortly after the February 17, 1988, abduction in south Lebanon of U.S. Marine Lieutenant Colonel Richard Higgins, deputy commander of the U.N. Truce Supervision Organization.

His kidnapping was considered a "provocation" by Amal, which controls the area where it took place, and the pro-Syrian organization organized vast search operations in an effort to recover the officer.

Hizballah, which considers that the U.N. presence in Lebanon hampers its operations against Israel, publicly approved the abduction and labelled Lt. Col. Higgins a "spy."

Shaykh Qabalan nonetheless stressed that the issue of releasing the hostages was not specifically brought up at the Damascus talks.

He said it was a matter for negotiations between states "as in the case of the French, West German and South Korean hostages," who were freed after their governments held talks with Tehran.

### UK Asks Lebanese Forces To Release Iranians

*JN0402162889 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 2 Feb 89 p 3*

[Text] Informed British sources have told AL-ITTIHAD that Britain is currently seeking with the "Lebanese Forces" militias to release four kidnapped Iranians, who have been held by the militias for 3 years, within the framework of the efforts to release British hostages in Lebanon.

The sources added that Britain has officially asked the United States to use its influence with the Lebanese Forces to release the Iranian hostages after the British Government was informed by Iran that the British hostages crisis is connected to the issue of kidnapping Iranians in eastern Beirut.

### Irish Envoy on Prospects for Hostage Release

*NC0402143889 Paris AFP in English 1418 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Beirut Feb 4 (FP)—A top Irish diplomat who has been in Lebanon for a week investigating rumors of a possible release of Irish hostage Brian Keenan left here Saturday saying the man may still be freed and promised to return in coming weeks.

"I leave with the impression that the release of Brian Keenan, before long, remains a distinct possibility," Ambassador Patrick McCabe, who is accredited to Iraq and Lebanon, said here.

He added that his government shared the hopes of the Keenan family that he and other hostages believed held in Lebanon would be released soon.

"I am leaving today, Saturday, to resume my duties in Baghdad where I am resident," Mr. McCabe said. "I envisage returning to Lebanon in coming weeks, and sooner if necessary."

The hostage's fate would meanwhile be monitored by Ireland's consul in Lebanon, Mr. McCabe added. He also thanked the media and other unnamed persons for assistance he received here.

Mr. McCabe flew from Beirut International Airport in the city's predominantly Moslem sector to Larnaca, Cyprus from where he was to take a connecting flight to Baghdad.

Brian Keenan, a teacher who holds double British and Irish citizenship, was abducted in West Beirut on April 11, 1986.

John McCarthy, a British cameraman and acting bureau chief for Worldwide Television, was seized a week later, on April 17, 1986.

Terry Waite, another Briton and the special envoy of the archbishop of Canterbury, went missing here on January 20, 1987, eight days after launching a renewed effort to secure the release of a hostage.

No group has claimed responsibility for their abductions.

Eighteen other Western hostages are currently missing in Lebanon.

### Israeli Gunboats Cruise Off Southern Coast

*NC0402155889 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] According to reports from the South, Israeli gunboats were cruising off the Lebanese coastal area between Al-Zahrani and Al-Awwali this afternoon.

### Planes Conduct Mock Raids

*NC0602102689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Israeli warplanes reconnoitered the Lebanese skies, breaking the sound barrier over the capital and the suburbs shortly before 1200.

Israeli fighter planes conducted mock raids over Sidon and the Palestinian camps earlier this morning, drawing anti-aircraft fire.

### Amal Group Attacks Israeli Positions 4 Feb

*NC0502123289 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] A group of the Lebanese resistance battalions-Amal attacked the Bayt Yahun and Haddathah positions with machineguns and rockets at 2030 last night, scoring direct hits. A 12.7-mm machinegun was destroyed and at least five troops inside the two positions were either killed or wounded. Shortly afterward, Israeli occupation forces pounded the periphery of the area where the operation took place and raked the outskirts of 'Ayta al-Jabal, Haris, and Haddathah. The resistance fighters managed to return safely to the base.

### PSP Fires at Army; Clashes in Al-Matn

*NC0302201289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] According to security reports, the outskirts of 'Arayya township came under machinegun fire from PSP positions in Shwit township at approximately 2020 tonight.

There was a limited setback on the Suq al-Gharb battle lines this evening. Sniper fire was directed at the Lebanese Army's positions in Qurs al-Mudawwar.

In another development, clashes involving the use of various weapons took place tonight between PSP gunmen and those of the National Struggle Movement of Faysal al-Dawud in the Qirnayil and Ra's al-Harf areas of Upper al-Matn.

### Army, PSP Positions in Mountain Exchange Fire

*NC0402123589 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Clashes involving the use of artillery shells and machineguns have been taking place between positions of the Lebanese Army in Dahr al-Wahsh and Al-Qurtabayah [in the mountain area] and the PSP positions on the opposite side since noon today. Artillery shells have been falling on residential areas in Al-Kahhalah township since 1315 this afternoon.

### Group Attacks Syrian Position in West Beirut

*NC0402110489 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] The 9 February Organization has declared that one of its armed groups attacked a Syrian occupation forces position on Karakas Street in the Al-Rawshah area of West Beirut last night. A spokesman for the organization said that the group clashed with the occupation forces for approximately 10 minutes and inflicted casualties among the Syrians.

### Syrian Soldiers Wounded in Beirut Grenade Attack

*NC0502203489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Syrian forces have established several checkpoints in West Beirut, notably at the entrance to Sabra in the southern suburb, and launched a campaign of raids after a Syrian roadblock was attacked with hand grenades at 2200 yesterday. The Syrian soldiers manning the roadblock, which is near the house of Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, were wounded in the attack.

### Amal, Nasirites Reportedly Clash in Sidon

#### Tension Noted After Killing

*NC0502154589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Tension developed between Amal and Nasirite Popular Organization gunmen in Harat Sayda this afternoon in the wake of a shooting incident that claimed the life of an Amal member called Musa al-Zayn. The incident led to an alert and gunfire was heard, particularly in the area of Al-Qanayah on the outskirts of Sidon, where the Nasirite organization has a permanent roadblock.

According to reports, the Amal member was killed by Nasirite gunmen. Consultations are under way to calm the situation, while the relatives of the victim are demanding that his murderers be handed over to them.

In another development, a shell fired from within the security zone in the South landed in Tibnin today. Citizen Amin Khalil Fawwaz received various injuries as a result.

#### Security Sources Deny Clashes

*NC0502181989 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] A citizen named Musa al-Zayn was killed in an inter-family dispute at Harat Sayda at approximately 1700 today. His body was taken to the hospital. Military police of the Nasirite Popular Organization arrested the murderer.

Meanwhile, security sources have denied reports of clashes between the Nasirite Popular Organization and the Amal Movement.

## Reportage on Visit by Kuwaiti Foreign Minister

### Monte Carlo on Visit

*JN0302182889 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, will arrive in Damascus at any moment. He will be received at the airport by his Syrian counterpart Faruq al-Shar', senior Syrian Foreign Ministry officials, and Kuwaiti Ambassador in Damascus Ahmad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasim, who stated that Shaykh al-Sabah will stay 24 hours in Syria during which he will meet with President Hafiz al-Asad to brief him on the results attained by the Arab good offices committee meetings in Tunis on the current state of affairs in Lebanon.

This visit takes place while some of the Syrian official media organs have launched a fierce campaign against Michel 'Awn's government. Syrian media have also published the strongly-worded criticism by the PNSF parties of the meeting that was held betwen General Michel 'Awn and Yasir 'Arafat. Syrian media have also emphasized Syria's role of salvation in Lebanon and the need to bring about national accord among the Lebanese. Minister al-Shar' will host a dinner in honor of Minister al-Sabah this evening. The Kuwaiti ambassador said he does not know whether the resumption of relations between Syria and Egypt, on which there is Arab mediation, will be discussed during the visit.

In the first sign of its kind in many years, the Syrian papers this morning published on their front pages President Husni Mubarak's statements vehemently criticizing Israel on the Tabah issue.

### Al-Sabah 'on a Mission'

*JN0402150789 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, head of the Arab League-appointed committee on Lebanon, has arrived in Damascus. The committee head, who is sisterly Kuwait's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, is no stranger to Damascus or its mood. He is fully knowledgeable about Damascus and where it stands on various Arab, regional, and international issues. The Kuwaiti diplomat is equally knowledgable about Syria's pan-Arab policy planks and the lengths it is prepared to go to in promoting these principles and stands.

It is not the first time that Shaykh Sabah has come to Damascus on a mission; he has been to Damascus on other missions only to find Damascus positive, accommodating, responsive, and faithful to the cause of Arab interests. He has found Damascus ready to make every contribution possible toward promoting pan-Arab interests. Syria has come out in favor of the formation of the Arab committee on Lebanon. It will not withhold whatever support is required to help make a success of all serious endeavors to get sisterly Lebanon out of its present crisis.

Syria will not spare itself in closing the anomalous file of internal conflicts that has persisted for 15 years. It will exert itself to put a definitive end to the points of disagreement and to work out an arrangement getting to the bottom of the weaknesses of the country's political system. The enemies have infiltrated through these weakness to burn the country, parlayze it, and use it as a bargaining chip against the Arabs in the context of the current conflict between the Arabs and their enemies who espouse capitulationist, partial, and separate deals.

Any approach to solve the Lebanese crisis to meet Lebanon's national and pan-Arab interests, to maintain the country's territorial integrity, independence, communal coexistence, and Arab identity, and to promise the liberation of Israeli-occupied Lebanese territory will find favor, support, and help in Damascus. What Syria wants for Lebanon is that which meets the national interests of all Lebanese. Syria has never harbored any designs on Lebanon and can never have such ambitions in the sisterly country.

A united, independent Arab Lebanon in no way conflicts with Syria's national and pan-Arab interests. Syria has consistently raised the slogan that Lebanon should not be a headquarters or gateway to imperialism and Zionism. All that Syria and the Arabs want is to see Lebanon committed to Arabism and pan-Arab interests. A pro-Israel, anti-Arab Lebanon divided by sectarian and communal entities is, on the other hand, anathema to the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese people and the Arabs at large as underlined by the toppling of the Israel-sponsored 17 May agreement.

It is known Israel stands to gain from demolishing and disintegrating Lebanon and taking over its role and function in the region. By contrast, Syria benefits from a united, Arab, national Lebanon assuring equality and equal opportunities for all its citizens. No Lebanese with minimal patriotism and gratitude can lump Syria and Israel together—the one having saved Lebanon from war and destruction and preserved its national unity; the other having invaded the country, conquered its capital, and initiated projects of disintegration and partition, still sitting on Lebanese territory as an occupying power, making no secret of long-standing designs on the country's territory and waters.

Far from ever standing in the way of a solution to the Lebanese crisis, Syria has helped the Lebanese brothers engage in a national dialogue to find a national solution.

Syria has never taken the side of one Lebanese faction against another. Syria will support the Lebanese to the extent that they stand for their country's unity and a national settlement.

## Al-Sabah, Al-Asad Confer

*JN0402180089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1200 today Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwait's deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Attending were Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the Kuwaiti ambassador in Damascus.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad briefed his excellency the president on the work of the Arab League-appointed Arab committee and its talks with Lebanese parties in Tunis as well as the second stage of the talks that the committee plans to initiate after the end of the first stage. They discussed the situation in Lebanon. The president wished the committee success in its efforts toward reform and reconciliation in Lebanon.

## Al-Sabah on Forces in Lebanon

*JN0402183589 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Kuwaiti side held an official luncheon attended by a number of Syrian ministers and heads of diplomatic missions. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad then met with Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. He then left Damascus and was seen off by Faruq al-Shar'. In a predeparture statement, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told reporters: I received from President Hafiz al-Asad full support for the committee's efforts to establish security and stability in Lebanon. On the second round of the committee talks, he said: Invitations will be issued to the chiefs of the religious communities, both Muslim and Christian, to meet with the committee and it is possible this meeting will take place in Kuwait.

On the presence of Syrian forces in Lebanon, Al-Sabah said: I have discussed this in the past. The Syrian forces did not stay in Lebanon because they love it there but because of an Arab decision. When the Lebanese situation stabilizes, the Syrian brothers will no longer have any wish to stay in Lebanon. As for the lies concerning the presence of Syrian forces in Lebanon, Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' said: Shaykh al-Sabah has responded to these lies. We do not pay any attention to them. Our stand in Lebanon is well known. Syria exerted immense efforts and made great sacrifices to help Lebanon and will continue to exert efforts and make sacrifices by helping the committee and through other means as well.

Asked about Arab solidarity and improving Arab ties, Shaykh al-Sabah said: Each of us is discussing this issue and each wants to reach the cherished aims. I believe there are no substantial differences but there are family differences that will be settled one day.

Asked if his visit to Egypt realized anything new on restoring ties between Syria and Egypt, Al-Sabah said his visit to Egypt has no connection with this issue but is in response to an invitation from Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. Responding to the same question, Faruq al-Shar' said: So far there is nothing new in this regard. When anything new crops up, we release it to the media. He added: I can say that the Egyptian leadership is taking positive steps. These steps are met with the Syrian leadership's complete understanding. Naturally, we welcome any positive step by the Egyptian Government to strengthen Arab cooperation and enhance adherence to the Arab League Charter and the Collective Arab Defense Pact. We welcome any steps that will put all the Arab states on the road to Arab solidarity that protects the Arab nation's interests.

## Al-Shar', Al-Sabah Statements

*JN0402194089 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] In a pre-departure statement to journalists, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Kuwait's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said he had the honor during his Damascus visit to meet with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. I explained to him the Arab ministerial committee's work in its Tunis meetings, said the minister and added: I found him fully supportive of the commitee's efforts to bring about quiet and stability in Lebanon. Replying to a questioner, Shaykh Sabah said the committee is to extend invitations to Lebanon's Muslim and Christian spiritual leaders for a meeting with the committee that may be held in Kuwait. Responding to another question about Arab solidarity, he said all of us are working toward that end. It is fair to say that it is less a disagreement of substance than one within one family that will be smoothed over in the future, Shaykh Sabah added.

Asked to evaluate the role of the Syrian Arab forces in Lebanon, Shaykh Sabah recalled an earlier statement by him to the effect that Syrian forces have not lingered in Lebanon because they relished the stay; their deployment to begin with was the result of an Arab decision. When the situation in Lebanon stabilizes, he added, the Syrian brothers will not want to remain in Lebanon. Asked about Syria's stand on the Arab ministerial committee, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' said Syria supports and backs its charge. His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, said Al-Shar', has stressed to brother Shaykh Sabah Syria's support and backing for the work of the committee and preparedness to give every posssible assistance to facilitate it.

Asked about slurs about Syria's pan-Arab role in Lebanon, Al-Shar' said brother Shaykh Sabah himself had refuted them, and added: Syria does not pay any attention to such lies as it has been making efforts and sacrifices to help Lebanon out of its ordeal. He emphasized that Syria will continue to extend every help and assistance to the Arab ministerial committee in discharging its task.

Replying to a question about possible reinstatement of ties between Syria and Egypt, the foreign minister said there is nothing new there, adding that Syria will welcome any positive step by the Egyptian Government to enhance Arab solidarity and commit itself to the Arab League Charter and the Collective Arab Defense Pact. Syria further welcomes whatever steps that put all of the Arab states along the road of Arab solidarity and that uphold the Arab nation's interests.

## Al-Sabah Ends 24-Hour Visit

*LD0402183589 Kuwait KUNA in English 1544 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[By Talal al-Kayid]

[Text] Damascus, Feb 4 (KUNA)—Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad left here for home Saturday, concluding a 24-hour visit to Syria. During his brief stay in Damascus, Shaykh Sabah held talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. The press spokesman for the Syrian presidential palace said, following the Sabah-Al-Asad two-hour meeting, that the Kuwaiti deputy premier and foreign minister briefed the Syrian leader on the meetings of the Arab League six-member committee on Lebanon and its talks with the Lebanese leader in Tunis last week, and the future phase in that regard. He said that President al-Asad wished the committee the best in its task, namely reunifying Lebanon.

In a press statement, Shaykh Sabah said that he was honored at meeting the Syrian president, from whom he sensed full support for the committee's efforts. He indicated that Muslim and Christian clergies will be invited to attend the second round of the committee's meeting, which might take place in Kuwait. On whether he discussed mending fences between Cairo and Damascus with Syrian officials, Shaykh Sabah said "all of us discuss this issue and wish to realise the sought results and I believe that it is more a family dispute than a material difference, which will be resolved some day."

On the Syrian presence in Lebanon, Shaykh Sabah stressed that Syrian forces came to Lebanon in implementation of an Arab resolution, noting that they will leave as soon as things are restored back to normal there. For his part, Syrian Foreign Minister al-Shar' re-affirmed his country's support of the committee and expressed its readiness to extend all possible help in that regard. As for lies circulated about Syria's presence in Lebanon, Al-Shar' said that Shaykh Sabah, who heads the [passage indistinct].

## Defense Minister Inspects Forces in Lebanon

*JN0502193589 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] On instructions of President Hafiz al-Asad, General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, at noon today paid an inspection visit to our forces operating in Lebanon. He was accompanied on this visit by General 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff of the Army and Armed Forces, and a number of senior Command officers. When the general arrived at one of our formations operating in Lebanon, an honor guard granted him the official salute.

Amid the fighters' cheers of long life to our great party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and its secretary general, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, the general addressed the fighters. At the beginning of his speech, the general conveyed the love and greetings of leader struggler Hafiz al-Asad. Afterward, he reviewed the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas as well as our country's role in defending both the Palestine question and the Arabism of Lebanon.

The general stressed Syria's continued care for Lebanon's unity and Arabism as well as Syria's interest in extending every support and backing to achieve national salvation and circumvent the present differences. Within this context, Syria and its great leader are eager to resolve the recent differences between Hizballah and the Amal movement and point a united rifle at the Zionist enemy.

His excellency also reviewed the situation in the Arab arena. He affirmed our country's continued support for the nationalist Palestinian line, which is struggling to liberate both land and man. The general lauded the valiant national resistance by our kinfolk in southern Lebanon as well as the tumultuous uprising of our people in Palestine, who are using stones to draw our history on the faces of the Zionist invaders. At the end of the visit, the general and his companions were accorded the usual farewell ceremony.

## Afghanistan

### PDPA, Mujahidin Hold 'Secret Talks' in Damascus

*JN0502175789 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] It has been learned from an official Pakistani source in Damascus that secret talks were held in the Syrian capital a few days ago between representatives of the Afghan fundamentalist parties, led by Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, and senior Afghan Government officials.

According to the same source, the talks were serious and tough and aimed at reaching an internal solution and a national settlement to the Afghan issue. The source added that the representatives of the Afghan parties realized that there could be no solution except through negotiations, especially since the Kabul regime might not easily fall following the Soviet withdrawal, contrary to some expectations.

### Najibullah Addresses PDPA Rally in Kabul

*LD0502183989 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Speech by President Najibullah at PDPA rally in Kabul on 5 February—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Dear listeners of Radio Afghanistan, as you heard in the news bulletins, today thousands of PDPA members organized a grand and glorious march and convened a glorious meeting to express their combat readiness to independently defend the country, freedom, independence, and our compatriots' prosperity. We prepared a report on this grand and glorious march and meeting to which we draw your attention:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] Long live the PDPA.

[Voices] Long live. Long live the PDPA. Long live.

[Speaker] Combatant members of the PDPA: Today all Kabul city party committee members again express the great and proud inheritance of their fathers and forefathers in independently defending the homeland. At this grand and glorious meeting the Kabul party organization sincerely welcomed the participation of Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of Afghanistan; members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo; the prime minister; deputies of the prime minister; friends; and party comrades.

Comrades: Kabul, the heart of our country, beats for peace and compromise. People watch our patriotic, revolutionary and peace-seeking actions attentively. Our noble and religious people also see the criminal actions of the armed extremists. We have chosen peace, however, and we will stand united to fight heroically to ensure peace. We will defend it. Those who choose the path of war will meet with death and destruction. The proud history of our party is a living witness of the proud struggle for a life full of national and revolutionary honor.

Dear comrades, we now ask Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the Republic of Afghanistan, to deliver a speech to this grand meeting, which reflects the firm decision of the PDPA members to defend our people's wishes. [applause]

[Najibullah] Revolutionary combatants of the PDPA, citizens of Kabul: Today we are witnessing a grand and glorious armed meeting and march by civilian members of the PDPA. The [word indistinct] of this grand and glorious march will shake up all the enemies of peace and freedom of Afghanistan's people. Endless thanks to you, the combatants of peace and freedom in Afghanistan. The PDPA ranks and cadres who once again in this sensitive but proud historic moment when the military conditions and poltical situation are getting complicated, these heroic members of the PDPA, are preparing for an intense war of life and death. [applause]

Our party is the party for the difficult and hard days. We remember our martyrs in red shrouds, who gallantly made their chests shields against the shots of the enemy to avoid the shame of defeat. Thousands and thousands of others are following in their path, their sacred path, with pride, sacrifice, and honor in a victorious march. [applause]

Endless thanks to each circle, to each primary organization who fostered true heros and combatants in its folds. However, our party is the party of difficult times, the party of heros, the party of martyrs, the party of real combatants, and the party of true patriots. Now, when the country again faces aggression from abroad, in the frontline of the ranks are the combatants of freedom, the children of the PDPA who defend peace, freedom, national sovereignty, the territorial integrity of their country, their homeland, and their proud and noble people. [applause]

Revolutionary comrades, we are living through these difficult days with your honor, bravery, and aspirations; you, the honest children of the country. We will appear proud and successful in the history of our nation.

Dear compatriots, we announced the national reconciliation policy and are following it. We initiated negotiations and talks via numerous channels with the opposition. We prefer not to resolve issues through war but through dialogue and negotiations. We asked the extremists, the opponents of peace, not to resort to shedding the blood of innocent people. We have done all this because we feel a responsibility toward our history, people, and country.

You judge. The limited Soviet military contingent is now returning to the USSR. We are standing on our own feet and we are independently defending our homeland, our fatherland and motherland, with courage. [applause] You see with your own eyes the rebels have centers, offices, and military camps. They are puppets in the hands of the intelligence services of other countries. The military intelligence of Pakistan sends weapons and fire through them to destroy our beloved country. Until yesterday the extremists said that the country was occupied by the USSR. Now the Soviets are returning to their country. But you see, you witness that others are bent on occupying our beloved country. They should remember that the noble people of Afghanistan, led by the PDPA and its political allies and the national democratic forces in the country, will teach them unforgettable lessons.

Revolutionary and struggling comrades, why do the counterrevolutionaries bring advisers from various countries to our country and hand in hand tour from place to place? You be the judge. They have built roads in Konarha, and cut down the forests of this homeland and sent them to Pakistan. Precious stones, lapis lazuli, beryl, and emeralds from this country are sold by those who sell out the homeland. They are sold to aliens, the Pakistani militia, the Pakistani generals. The Pakistani Armed Forces are invited by the rebels to attack the sacred territory of our beloved homeland.

This is the true face of these anti-patriots, who are anti-homeland and anti-people. They do not understand anything but the word of force and they have decided to shed the pure blood of the courageous heroic sons of the PDPA, to shed the blood of patriots and the innocent Afghan people. They have begun the hue and cry that they are creating a bloodbath, massacring people in Kabul and in other cities. They are making a hue and cry that they are beseiging cities and they want to starve people to death. To carry out these traitorous actions, they do not hide their true colors.

You, the courageous sons of this country, ask what should be done when we are faced with this situation? Struggle, however resolute and shattering, struggle. [applause] Our party, the sons of the PDPA, and their political allies, are capable, and should be capable, of defending peace in the homeland and our territorial integrity and thus to leave behind them these difficult tests, however honorable.

Ride with the tide and challenge storms. Rival sharks in duel and go to danger. Don't seek refuge in the mountains, or asulum in the sky. Go forward like the sun, self-illuminated, for life is nothing but a fight. [applause]

We will make it through these difficult days which call us to a life of endless struggle, sacrifice and danger. We will defend the dignity and honor of our people, our national sovereignty, the territorial integrity of our country, and our people's peace and freedom. We have learned this especially from our forefathers and have been inspired by them. Let foreign countries conduct varied propaganda noises and voice contradictions, but the state of the Republic of Afghanistan, the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan, the heroic PDPA, its political allies, patriotic national forces, and national personalities are all able to defend themselves independently and overcome every difficulty. [applause]

Heroic fighters of the valiant PDPA, comrades, real patriots, during this stage when we will independently defend the country a great responsibility rests on your shoulders. You must prove your worth and that of your party in the fighting and battle theater. [applause] You must defend the dignity, honor, and peaceful lives of your families and the families of the people of Afghanistan, the residents of Kabul, and the high interests of the people in an unprecedented unity like a steel fist. [applause]

Do not forget your bloodstained shrouded martyrs who are asleep in the graveyard for the sake of the country. Take inspiration from them. [applause] Fight for the dignity and honorable name of the PDPA against the extremists until the end, until the final victory. Right now the fighters of the PDPA are struggling selflessly and honorably in Qandahar, Nangarhar, Laghman, and Zabol. This proves that they lose lives but not trenches. [applause] Right now, brave sons of the PDPA, fight in Salang against the thieves of the people's bread and be honored.

We assure the esteemed citizens of Kabul and our dear compatriots that not only the Armed Forces, but the self-sacrificing strugglers of the PDPA, too, are voluntarily ready to sacrifice their beloved lives to defend their dignity and honor, and they will, until the end of their lives, not forget their dignity and honor. [applause]

The sons of the noble people of Afghanistan and the sons of Kabul's citizens, in this phase when we unite to defend our country, will undoubtedly stand at the side of the PDPA. We are completely confident that every street, every bazaar, every locality and every ward will be turned into a reliable trench for the defense of the dignity and honor of the people and of Kabul's citizens. We warn the counterrevolutionaries and extremists that we have burned all the bridges behind us and are only striving forward. This is the militant war resolution of the PDPA headquarters. [applause]

Dear compatriots, we are not deviating even one step from the policy of national reconciliation, which is the guarantor of our people's prosperity, happiness, peace and tranquility. We are ready to sit and talk with and understand the opposition at any level they want and in any place. However, they should remember that we will not retreat a single step from our principled stand, in lawfully defending the homeland, peace and our national honor. [applause] We are not dictating our policy to others. Similarly, we do not accept others' dictates and policies. We are standing firm in the trenches of defending the homeland and in this sacred cause. God is with us. The people are with us and history is with us. With the honor and dignity of an Afghan we declare that the future is ours. The future is in the hands of the people of Afghanistan and not in those whose slogan is war. [applause]

Revolutionary strugglers of the PDPA, in your brave faces we see determination, decisiveness, resolve, and steadfastness. The people of the homeland have the right to demand that their courageous sons defend their honor and dignity. They have the right to expect these sons to love this homeland. We love this homeland. We love its people. We love the star of its future in the horizon of time, its struggle, its love, and its beautiful future! [applause]

Heroic and courageous friends, with the song of the party on our lips and with victorious fists: forward! [shouts and applause] Long live the PDPA. [end recording]

## AFP Reports Kabul Rally

*BK0502133589 Hong Kong AFP in English 1327 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[By Yves de Saint-Jacob]

[Excerpts] Kabul, Feb 5 (AFP)—A gala patriotic rally was held in downtown Kabul on Sunday by the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) as planes removing the last Soviet troops flew overhead.

The PDPA organized the rally, which included a military parade, revolutionary songs and Soviet AK-47 rifles brandished by party militants, in support of Afghan President Najibullah.

In the skies over Kabul, Soviet Antonov and Ilyushin planes were removing the last of Moscow's soldiers stationed in the Afghan capital while some 5,000 PDPA militants converged on the Ariana intersection near the Presidential Palace.

At 11:30 am local time, the Afghan president arrived on foot, clad in army camouflage fatigues and accompanied by his prime minister, other members of government and the chief army and party leaders.

In a speech to the crowd, the president called on all Afghan refugees to return to their homeland saying: "Afghanistan does not belong to us. It also belongs to them, it belongs to us all."

He also denounced the supply of arms to the mujahidin, the Afghan rebel forces fighting the Soviet-installed government, by the United States and neighboring Pakistan.

The president finished his speech with a poem dedicated to youth.

After rallying the crowd, Mr Najibullah walked along the expansive Avenue of Peace leading to the presidential palace followed by a military procession.

In front of him marched a lone man carrying the official PDPA flag with loudspeakers blaring the party hymn, "My Party, My Grand Heroic Party."

The Afghan president and leading dignitaries of the regime then mounted a podium in front of the entrance of the palace.

Under banners reading "Long live the PDPA," the crowd paraded in compact rows for 20 minutes past the officials. Leading the procession were young men in overcoats and military caps brandishing their Soviet rifles.

Women in red scarves, rifles draped across their chests, then followed with a mix of militants of all ages, including adolescents ardently waving their new firearms. [passage Omitted]

An official Afghan source said that all the PDPA militants had been armed, adding that there were 60,000 fighters in Kabul, a figure that was unverifiable by observers.

The decision to arm the PDPA members was made as the last remaining Soviet soldiers were leaving Kabul. A Soviet source said on Saturday that all Soviet bases had been evacuated except for some 500 to 2,000 troops left at the Kabul airport. [passage omitted]

## Najibullah Holds News Conference in Kabul 2 Feb

*LD0302232189 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[First of two parts of news conference held by President Najibullah in Kabul on 2 February; questions read by unidentified moderator—recorded]

[Text] [Najibullah] In the name of God, the merciful, and compassionate. Dear journalists and esteemed friends: I would like, above all, to welcome you to Kabul, the capital of the Republic of Afghanistan. In a few days time, limited number of Soviet military units' withdraw from Afghanistan will be completed and you will be eyewitnesses of this important event.

Esteemed journalists, 2 ½ years ago, when 6 units of the limited Soviet contingents were leaving our country and we were seeing them off, I said in my speech at the time: Let's think not about the withdrawal of the first contingents but about the withdrawal of the last limited Soviet contingents. I have been thinking since that time about preparing the ground for the full withdrawal of the Soviet forces to their peace-loving country. Based on a previous request by the state of the Republic of Afghanistan, some people have launched a hue and cry claiming to have defeated the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. However, a simple question clarifies this picture. Up until yesterday, the limited Soviet contingents in Afghanistan were not fighting, and the extremists were not continuing their jihad. After the first stage of withdrawal of the limited Soviet contingents, the extremists intensified the war. It is as if they were either scared or were not fighting against the Soviets, but they began intensifying the war against their Afghan brothers.

Based on a previous request by the state of the Republic of Afghanistan and with the agreement of the Soviet Union, and in full conformity with the Geneva accords, all the remaining contingents of the Soviet Union are now returning to their peace-loving country with success and pride. Today, the appreciation of each patriotic Afghan is with the soldiers and officers of our friend, the Soviet Union.

The enemy of our people and those who oppose peace were constantly spreading propaganda to the effect that the Soviet Union has occupied Afghanistan and that the Soviet forces will remain in Afghanistan forever. They were formulating their policy towards Afghanistan based on these false calculations. When it was proven to the whole world that the decision of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union on the withdrawal of the limited Soviet contingents was decisive and final, those who were benefitting financially and politically from the continuation of the war in Afghanistan attempted, and are continuing their attempts, to prevent the full withdrawal of the limited Soviet contingents.

They wanted the main pretext for foreign interference in Afghanistan's affairs and the continuation of the war in our country to remain unchanged. Now, it has become obvious that our decision to complete the withdrawal of the Soviet contingents has foiled all their propaganda, calculations, and sinister aims. It has become clear to all the world that only we and the Soviet Union have observed and implemented the spirit and contents of the Geneva accords, unilaterally.

Let us see how Pakistan, which signed these accords, has behaved. Not only has Pakistan failed to observe its commitments, but by trampling on all the provisions of the first document of the accords, Pakistan has broadened and intensified armed aggression, violations, and other forms of intervention, both qualitatively and quantitatively, against the Republic of Afghanistan.

The military training centers, the offices of the anti-revolutionaries and their central departments, arms and ammunition depots, publication establishments, radio stations, and other facilities of the opposition groups in Pakistan, which should have been fully eliminated in accordance with the Geneva accords—especially under document number one of these accords—from the date that they came into force, have instead remained intact, and they have even been more fully equipped and become more active.

Since the Geneva accords were signed, an unprecedented quantity of advanced weapons have been transported from Pakistan to the territory of Afghanistan. Since the Geneva accords were signed, namely during the past 9 months, the armed Afghan opposition groups, by using these modern weapons, have carried out 557 armed attacks against the Armed Forces and residential areas and have detonated 403 powerful bombs and other explosives in populated regions of the cities. During this period, they have fired a total of 1,000 rockets and long-range missiles in the country, which has resulted in 6,954 being martyred and 12,200 injured.

In addition to this, the Pakistani militia and armed forces are progressively taking a direct role in the activities, combat operations, and subversive acts of the armed opposition groups.

The Pakistani authorities, contrary to the third document of the Geneva accords, are preventing the return of Afghan refugees under various pretexts. In view of this regrettable situation, it should be stated that the United States has not carried out its commitments as one of the guarantors of the documents of Geneva accords. On the other hand, Pakistan's careless violations of the Geneva accords and the generous donation of military equipment and financial assistance to the armed Afghan opposition groups by foreign circles, are the cause for the encouragement of and motive behind the continuation of the war and bloodshed. This damages our earnest, all-round efforts to achieve understanding and compromise between the belligerent Afghan groups and create an atmosphere of peace and reconciliation between Afghans, and brings about negative results.

Obviously, all these actions are clearly against the Geneva accords and cannot be regarded as anything other than irresponsibly trampling on accepted norms and standards of international laws and insulting international society. We have passed on all these facts to our people, the United Nations, and international public opinion. And now, no realistic person can doubt that the Geneva accords so far have been earnestly observed and implemented only by the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. The opposition has violated these accords carelessly and irresponsibly.

To further create an atmosphere of understanding and compromise among Afghans, and to restore peace and security in the country, we have agreed to the withdrawal of Soviet forces in accordance with the Geneva accords. As we desire the earnest implementation and careful observation of the Geneva accords, naturally we also want the withdrawal of the Soviet forces to be completed. We also believe that the PDPA, the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan, and the PDPA's political allies are independently able to defend themselves, our people, and our homeland. And if it becomes necessary, they have the ability, with the help of almighty God and the support of our people, to deliver a decisive and crushing reply to the attacks and subversive actions of the armed extremist groups.

In our view, if the Geneva accords were being earnestly and seriously observed by the other side, it would be possible for national understanding and peace to be restored. This would obviously be in the interests of our people as well as in the interests of the people of neighboring countries. It would assist the task of maintaining peace in the region and in the world.

Dear journalists, in fulfilling our duties in accordance with the Geneva accords and in accordance with the resolution passed by the 43d session of the UN General Assembly, I reiterate our determination and decisive resolution to continue the policy of national reconciliation in this country.

We believe that faith in restoring peace in the land of Afghanistan is being linked to a comprehensive political solution based on balance of interests and equal rights of the belligerent forces, and on the creation of a broad-based ruling coalition. Despite hostile actions by the opposition groups, we are not going to close the gates of peace and reconciliation. We will forge ahead with all our energy to achieve the objectives of the policy of national reconciliation together with patriotic forces in our country.

We invite the Pakistani authorities to review their policy and attitude on Afghanistan. Of course, our invitation means an invitation to sound minds in establishing good-neighborly relations.

The Republic of Afghanistan, as an independent, non-aligned and sovereign country wants friendly relations with all countries. However, I state explicitly that simultaneously we resolutely defend the interests of the people, the homeland, national independence, and the territorial integrity of our country. The Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan, with high morale and combat capability, will safeguard the interests of the people, homeland, and honor of the country more powerfully than before, and with firmness and courage. Moreover, on the side of our fighting Armed Forces are hundreds of thousands of PDPA members, their political allies, all forces and national personalities, and patriotic forces in Afghanistan. They are all determined, if necessary, to heroically defend themselves and their people with arms.

While we escort the limited Soviet military units, we know well that Afghan-Soviet friendship is our subsequent dynamic strength for peace, for ending the war in Afghanistan. The world knows that the Soviet forces are returning to their country. However, Afghan-Soviet friendship, which is rooted in the heart of our history, will survive. We will maintain this friendship.

Dear journalists, you can now ask your questions after this brief talk. I know you have lots of questions. I am at your service.

[Moderator] Esteemed President, journalists earlier sent a number of written questions. These questions have been classified in various sections. With your permission I will read these questions.

Question by Robert Fox, DAILY TELEGRAPH reporter: How optimistic are you that Mr Shevardnadze's 4 February visit to Islamabad for peaceful talks will bring about positive results?

[Najibullah] Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit to Islamabad is taking place within the framework of efforts by the leaders of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union to reach a political solution to the situation surrounding Afghanistan. The recent changes in the political life in Pakistan mean, on the one hand, that it can prepare the groundwork for bringing the Geneva accords to a sensitive and optimistic stage in order to achieve a political solution. On the other hand, we must still be optimistic about the results of the visit and talks of his excellency Shevardnadze with the Pakistani leaders. However, achieving a positive result requires that the leaders of Pakistan (?choose) a constructive and politically realistic stance.

[Moderator] Question by Oliver Walter, REUTER correspondent: Please shed light on the Islamabad talks between the USSR foreign minister and Pakistani leaders due to take place on 4 February. Does the PDPA think that the Soviet Union might make a deal with the leaders of the mujahidin that will not be in the interests of the party?

[Najibullah] The first part of your question has already been answered when I replied to a question raised by Robert Fox, the DAILY TELEGRAPH reporter. As for the second part of your question, it must be stated that the Soviet Union is a reliable friend and neighbor of the people of Afghanistan. There is no doubt or suspicion on the part of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan in this or in any other respect.

[Moderator] A question by Mrs (?Valentine Macadam), an American (?journalist): Is there any sign that the Government of Pakistan will change its policy concerning its support for the opposition and improve its relations with the your government?

[Najibullah] Unforutnately, Pakistan continues to violate the Geneva accords. However, the transformations inside Pakistan are, on the one hand, positive developments reflecting the incidents that have taken place on the international level. On the other hand, these transformations logically require that Pakistan commit itself to observing the Geneva accords, which is the desire of the people of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and of all the peace-loving people in the world. It should take steps to normalize ties with the Republic of Afghanistan.

[Moderator] Thank you. A question from Mr Robert Fox, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH's correspondent, and Mr Johnson Witherow, correspondent for the SUNDAY TIMES: Mr President, how do you assess the closure of the Western embassies? What do you think about the criticisms expressed by these countries on the inability of the government to prevent the disruption of public order after the Soviet forces withdraw? Is there any real threat to the security of Kabul? Also a question from Saint-Jacob from AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE: What is your reaction to the closure of a number of the Western countries' embassies?

[Najibullah] This action by a small number of the Western countries is considered by our people to be a move to encourage the continuation and intensification of the psychological war. This is an effort to create fear and intimidation and to distort national and international public opinion.

A question comes to mind: Why, on the one hand, have a number of Western countries closed their embassies in Kabul, and on the other hand, increased the number of advisers on the anti-revolutionary front. Judge for yourself. This situation reveals two things. First, that the limited Soviet contingents in Afghanistan were responsible for the stability in the country. And second, that opposition extremists, who were supported by certain well-known Western circles with money and arms, under the name of so-called freedom fighters, in fact turned out to be saboteurs. The Western circles which claim to uphold human rights and democracy themselves do not trust or have any guarantees on the extremists activities. Therefore, the closure of Western political representations in Kabul reveals an important fact about who is continuing the destructive war against the people of Afghanistan and how this is being done.

Despite all these conspiracies, the brave Armed Forces of the country are standing firm to protect the lives, property, and honor of the homeland and the full security of state establishments and diplomatic representations. They will decisively foil any effort to disrupt security. Let the Westerners prove once again with their actions who wants to ensure peace, security, and tranquility for the people, even the security of diplomats, particularly Western diplomats, and who wants to disrupt the peaceful climate in our country by spreading fear. A question must be asked: Whose side are they on? Are they spreading fear or supporting peace and security? I leave this judgment to you.

On the other hand, those who decide to leave Kabul, are only a small minority of the diplomatic corps stationed in Kabul. We are pleased that the majority of the diplomats stationed in Kabul, assured of their security and optimistic about the establishment of peace in the Republic of Afghanistan, continue their noble duties in order to consolidate the coordination and friendship ties with the people of Afghanistan. The people and Government of Afghanistan praise their valuable role in establishing peace and consoliding friendly relations between peoples.

[Moderator] Thank you. A question by an NBC correspondent: Do you think the occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union was a mistake?

[Najibullah] It should be pointed out first of all that this is not the correct way to phrase the question. Afghanistan has never been occupied by the Soviet Union. Such a goal has never been discussed. Without mentioning the other reasons and facts, this reality, the complete withdrawal of the Soviet Union which is taking place before your very eyes, based on the agreements between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union and in accordance with the Geneva accords, which you and the whole world witnessed, puts an end to the tale of the Soviet Union's occupation of Afghanistan. Whether the existence of Soviet forces in Afghanistan was a mistake or not is an issue which history will answer.

[Moderator] Thank you. A BBC correspondent asks: Are you sure that Moscow will continue to the end to fulfill its pledges concerning its support and backing for you? Another question: How do you assess your relations with the Kremlin?

[Najibullah] Relations between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union have traditionally been friendly in accordance with principles of good neighborliness. At present, too, relations between both countries are at a very satisfactory and high level. These ties will be expanded and consolidated in the future. The recent visits of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, Soviet Defense Minister Dmitriy Yazov, and Yuriy Maslyukov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the Soviet State Planning Committee, are outstanding signs of the further consolidated Afghan-Soviet friendly ties, cooperation, and solidarity in all spheres.

[Moderator] Thank you. A representative of Radio-TV Afghanistan has sent me this question: In Islamabad they are talking of a commitment to the Geneva accords. How do you assess the new Pakistani Government's position toward these accords?

[Najibullah] Since the Geneva accords were first implemented, Islamabad has so far, unfortunately, violated these agreements repeatedly. So far, the Afghan side has delivered 202 memorandums to the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan on these violations. A brief glance at the past 9 months shows that Pakistani intervention—unfortunately contrary to our expectations and those of the peace-loving world—have nevertheless intensified. This fact is clearly in contravention of the increasingly profound political transformations in Pakistan and of the program of its new government. We hope that with the completion of the withdrawal of Soviet military units from the Republic of Afghanistan, which proves the sincerity of the Republic of Afghanistan and of the Soviet Union regarding the Geneva accords, Pakistan will also carry out its obligations.

[Moderator] Questions from NBC television, from Mr (Izawa) of the Japanese ASAHI newspaper, and a BBC representative: Will there be any place for you in a future government? Are you prepared to relinquish power if necessary?

[Najibullah] We have a positive approach toward forming a broad-based and neutral government. The Republic of Afghanistan will implement all possible measures and initiatives to accelerate and strengthen the move to form a government. Our endeavors are not directed at creating monopolisitic positions for any person or side, but are geared toward ensuring that a principally new position is created under which all Afghans will be able to join forces and create a broad-based and neutral government. At present, any comment on the circumstances and positions of people in the future government is premature and unneccesary, and in fact will (?tamper) with the nature of events and with our efforts to find a political solution. In principle, the people stepping down or negative responses will not at all help the political solution of the Afghan issue.

[Moderator] Question from Richard Weintraub of THE WASHINGTON POST: How do you assess the possibility of a political resolution of disagreements with the opposition in the present phase? Most (?observers) believe that the possibility of a political solution is small. What time scale is needed for issues to be solved by military means?

[Najibullah] We believe that Afghans are able to attain peace, and at the present time this fact manifests itself as our urgent national and historic duty. Alongside this, we are also aware that especially because of the unconstructive stance by Pakistan and the United States, the situation is still complicated. [Word indistinct] of war, even if it might be propaganda, continues to be fanned by the most fundamentalist forces. Therefore, in the present stage, the policy of a political and peaceful solution and the policy of the continuation of war, clearly confront each other, and the possibility of a political solution develops alongside the possibility of a military solution.

Certainly, our efforts and attention will be directed towards the (?victory) of a political solution over a military solution. However, if warmongering extremists, under the protection of the militarists of Pakistan, and in opposition to the will and desires of our people, seek to impose a military confrontation on the broad forces of peace, democracy, and progress in the country, then the Republic of Afghanistan, the people of Afghanistan, and the Armed Forces of Afghanistan are ready and able to crush any military efforts by the extremists. Our armed forces are powerful. Their combat capabilities and firepower have increased further. We are confident that (?imaginary) propaganda about the possibility of a military victory by the extremists will soon be (?crushed), and as a result the political solution will soon become the order of the day among Afghans.

[Moderator] Question by the Ireland Radio-Television correspondent: Is it possible that by blocking food supply routes the opposition will defeat your government? What quantity of food has been stored in Kabul city? Why weren't enough foodstuffs delivered to Kabul in the past? Do you want the United Nations to supply aid to Kabul by air? Will Perez de Cuellar visit Kabul in the near future?

[Najibullah] Before anything else, I want to point out that putting pressure on supply routes in order to block the arrival of food and basic commodities for people shows the military weaknesses of the counterrevolutionaries. They are showing their inability to achieve a military victory. Therefore, by using this so-called nonmilitary method they want to put pressure on the population in the cities, on innocent people, children, and women. They want to appear to have succeeded against the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan, instead of saying that they have strangled an orphan and stolen his bread.

The provision of food and other public commodities is not only the responsibility of state organs but is an issue which is directly related to the people's interests. By our [word indistinct] aid, as we have already done, we will overcome this difficulty. We are confident that in the future too we will remove this problem by utilizing all our possibilities. It should be said frankly that our measures to save people from starvation, including strong military measures, will be legitimate from every point of view and will be supported by the people of Afghanistan.

In this connection, the emergency Soviet aid by air to Kabul citizens should be pointed out. The people can once again experience who closes food supply routes to the innocent people of Afghanistan and who assists them by providing food. The arrival of food in Kabul city and the creation of reliable reserves is continuing. At present the serious difficulties of the past have been removed. We will accept any kind of assistance from anybody in this regard with appreciation.

His Excellency Perez de Cuellar has recieved a letter from the president of Afghanistan regarding his visiting our country. We believe that his excellency Perez de Cuellar's visit to Kabul will be an important step in the UN General Assembly resolution, and will undoubtedly play a significant role in accelerating a political solution to the Afghan issue.

[Moderator] Thank you. A question from Yoshinyo, a correspondent of Fuji-TV in Japan: In your view, when and how will peace come to Afghanistan?

[Najibullah] All our efforts are centered on the fact that this long-lasting war in our country should come to an end. Peace and national compromise should be established as soon as possible in accordance with the will of the Afghan people. On the one hand we have implemented and observed the Geneva accords and will continue to do so in the future. And on the other hand, in order to develop the idea of national reconciliation, we proposed a unilateral cease-fire, extensive political dialogue, the convocation of a broad league for the preparation of peace, the creation of a broad-based government, the convocation of a broad international peace conference on the demilitarization and neutrality of Afghanistan, and other measures and initiatives. We are constantly striving in this direction to find a solution to the entire Afghan problem as soon as possible. Everyone knows that if the other side observes the Geneva accords, we will make great progress toward ensuring peace, security, and compromise in Afghanistan.

[Moderator] Thank you. A correspondent from ASSOCIATED PRESS and also a correspondent of the Spanish press agency EFE have asked these questions: How much control does your government have over the regions and people of Afghanistan? Which provinces of the country are in the hands of the armed opposition? Also a correspondent of NBC from the United States asks: How large are your Armed Forces?

[Najibullah] The country's provinces, cities, and strategic points are safely under the control of the state's forces. The state of the Republic of Afghanistan, based on the Geneva accords and the idea of a coalition administration, has decided to form nonmilitary zones along the border to help the return of emigrants. It has evacuated a number of provinces, which do not have any strategic importance, based on this idea of forming a coalition administration. Or, we can say that a change has taken place in the deployment of our military units.

Anyway it is good that these examples have been seen by the world. Please go and see for yourself a small example of the sovereignty of a so-called administrative unit by the Afghan armed opposition in Konarha. There the truth of their claim about running the state and serving the people of Afghanistan will be revealed. When they are unable to ensure peace, security, control, and service to people in one administrative unit, then how do they claim that they will be able to achieve such a goal over the entire country?

About our Armed Forces it should be said that the state of the Republic of Afghanistan has a powerful, well-equipped force which is able to meet the needs of internal security.

[Moderator] Thank you. Some questions from Mr Saint-Jacob, from AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS: Are you ready for a war over Kabul? Or, with the opposition's agreement, do you want Kabul to be changed into an open city with UN guarantees? Do you intend to renew the unilateral cease-fire?

[Najibullah] The activities of the state of the Republic of Afghanistan, as I mentioned before, are mainly geared toward seeking a political solution to Afghanistan, and at the same time these activities are synonymous with the independent defense of the national independence and territorial integrity of the country. There is no distance between these two principles, but, there is a serious, firm, and unshakable connection between them.

As we said, our efforts are concentrated on the formation of a broad-based, neutral coalition government. In principle, it should cover the entire Afghan spectrum and naturally its headquarters will be in Kabul. The presence of the UN peace-keeping forces were also anticipated in our plans. However, if the extremists make an effort to organize a military attack against Kabul to ensure their one-sided sovereignty and to slaughter the citizens of Kabul, they will receive a crushing reply. In this connection, we do not consider as (?exact) the expressions of "fight over Kabul" or "open city". Concerning the announcement of a new cease-fire, I should say that this matter depends on the actions of the opposition after the full withdrawal of the limited Soviet contingents.

[Moderator] Thank you. A question by [name indistinct] Fuji TV of Japan: Please explain the present status of talks between the government and opposition groups. After the withdrawal of the Soviet Union, how do you think these talks will end?

[Najibullah] The fact is that the reality of political dialogue is being broadened and enjoys serious principled importance on the basis of cooperation, and reciprocal and coordinated understanding between the governments of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, which is one of the guarantors of the Geneva accords. The Al-Ta'if, Rome, and Islamabad talks were important political victories for us. They indicate that the possibilities for a political solution are continuously being expanded. We have made specific gains regarding daialogue with internal commanders who, in reality, form the genuine force of the armed opposition. Dialogue with the internal opposition is increasingly gaining a comprehensive character and agreements are increasing.

We draw the conclusion that the situation in the country is developing with new qualitative characteristics which oblige all sides, above all Pakistan, to unreservedly observe the Geneva accords. This important historic mission is before all Afghans to try to achieve a political solution to the Afghanistan issue with more flexibility.

[Moderator] Thank you. (?Valentine Macadam), an expert on South Asian countries; (?Izawa) from Japan's ASAHI newspaper; and a correspondent of the BBC have raised questions about the PDPA which are going to be read in the following manner: Is it true that the PDPA might disintegrate? After the Soviet troops withdraw will the PDPA be reorganized? There are reports that your party is divided on the issue as to whether or not further concessions should be made to the mujahidin. What is your approach concerning this issue?

[Najibullah] The PDPA is a formidable political power which has been fighting for many years for peace and progress in the country. During the past 24 years of political life and political struggle of the PDPA, the conditions and political situation have been constantly transforming in Afghanistan, as a result of which requirements for political work and the basis for the organizational structure of the PDPA have also constantly changed.

The PDPA is the initiator and inventor of the policy of national reconciliation and steadfastly struggles for its implementation. If there were misunderstandings among PDPA members about national reconciliation in the beginning, now all party members hold the policy with joined hands. Rest assured that there are no splits in the PDPA.

[Moderator] Thank you. A U.S. Orientalist, whose name has previously been mentioned, asks another question: There are rumors about the possibility of a coup d'etat. Could you shed light on this issue and the military situation in the country?

[Najibullah] Understanding the real situation should be separated from rumors. The country's Armed Forces are now acting together for the defense and high interests of the country more than at any other time. As far as the military situation in the country is concerned, it can be said that the sovereign state of the Republic of Afghanistan is, despite hardships, in control of the situation. Over the past months our Armed Forces have conducted their own defense against the warmongers in 23 provinces from where Soviet forces have been withdrawn, against warmongers who enjoy direct military assistance and interference from Pakistan. The extremists' efforts to occupy cities were defeated one after another and they were given good lessons. We have confidence in the bravery, gallantry, and combat strength of our Armed Forces and we are proud of them.

[Moderator] Thank you. Question by John Witherow of the SUNDAY TIMES: Are you hopeful of a political solution to the situation, even though the mujahidin have rejected a cease-fire and further negotiations until the PDPA is excluded from the new government.

Similarly Oliver Wates, REUTER's correspondent, has put forward this question: What signs are there that the mujahidin's position is softening and that they will enter into negotiations with the PDPA?

[Najibullah] In the present situation the fanatical and warmongering policy of some extremist sections, who are dependent on the foreign forces who oppose peace in Afghanistan, is highlighted as the main obstacle to securing a political solution to the problem of peace in Afghanistan. A section of the armed opposition inside the country has showed an incliniation toward peace and forces for peace in the country have come ever closer to one another, and understandings are strengthening among them.

Overall, the possibilities and assets for a political solution have not decreased, they have gained strength. Some fundamentalists have endeavored to keep the PDPA and its political allies and forces, included in the ruling coalition in the country and national forces, out of the process of dialogue for a political solution. However, a political solution can only be secured on the grounds of comprehensive and universal participation. Ignoring the existing realities of Afghan society, from any side, will only lead to the continuation of bloodshed.

It has been proved that any one-sided attitude toward the political situation is a failure. This is further demonstrated by the inability of the extremists to put forward a logical solution to the problems of Afghanistan. The extremists have no specific view and stand on the political solution. Once they start a hue and cry that the Al-Ta'if talks were a great victory for the mujahidin, from the same mouths this statement was heard: The talks conducted with Vorontsov led to their disadvantage because it caused division among them. Later they said that some of them supported the idea continuing negotiations. Therefore we have the right to say that they have no specific policy and they are afraid of a political solution because they may lose. On the one hand they speak of a consultative council, then they talk about a united front. One section says they will take part in the council, another says they will boycott it.

There is war in the country. The people of Afghanistan want peace. Those who consider themselves the future rulers of the country must think responsibly in order to secure a political solution and a specific program. Let the people die here in the streets and in the villages so that they solve the problem of whether they want a council or not. Whether talks with Vorontsov were in their interests or to their detriment, I repeat that there must be no effort to exclude the PDPA and other forces from the present coalition. I insist on this. Another time they put forward another idea, as a cover, that good Muslims of the Kabul government may be allowed to take part in a future coalition government and the shura. This attitude is a childish, baseless, empty, and unreasonable attitude.

We hope they will know the path that they have embarked on leads to a mirage. It is fruitless and inconclusive. It is a serious reality that public opinion inside and outside Afghanistan stresses that the PDPA, as a vital reality, enjoys powerful and balanced political power, and a strong political stand in Afghanistan, which cannot be ignored. I am confident that very soon the soundest opposition forces will be compelled to concede this.

## More on News Conference

*LD0502134589 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari*
*1600 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Second and last part of news conference held by President Najibullah in Kabul on 2 February; questions read by unidentified moderator—recorded]

[Text] [Moderator] A representative of CBS from the United States and (Valentine Macadam) have asked another question: How do you assess the mujahidins's political and military situation?

[Najibullah] First the political situation: There is a great discrepancy between the extremists' claims and actions. While they are talking about their unity and power, reports from Peshawar and Tehran, and you are aware of them, show a lack of decision and a political program. Confusion overshadows the opposition organizations stationed in Pakistan and Peshawar. Even the intelligence agencies in Pakistan have been unable to create an artificial unity among the opposition. You are fully informed about the complaints by the oppositions' leaders on the interference by the Pakistani military forcing them to artificial unity.

From the military viewpoint: You must remember the opposition's claims since the beginning of the current year. To date they have tried to occupy cities after the withdrawal of 50 percent of the Soviet forces and have killed children, the elderly, and innocent people. However, they were unable to achieve victory even in one province and city, except those few provinces which I mentioned previously that were evacuated by the Armed Forces.

[Moderator] A representative of Irish Radio-TV asks: How will you keep the Salang highway open for the delivery of foodstuffs and construction material after 15 February. Also, how will you drive the opposition away from the vicinity of the Salang highway on your own?

[Najibullah] In fact, Ahmad Shah Mas'ud in the last few months has misused our goodwill and our invitation to discuss reconciliation. The issue of our Armed Forces' ability to keep the Salang highway open is not in question. Our Armed Forces, by carrying out recent operations along the Salang highway, have given a good lesson to those, who, under the title of jihad were hijacking the food convoys and were causing starvation to the Muslim people of Kabul city. Recent operations show that the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan are capable at anytime of preventing the action of highway robbers.

[Moderator] Question by (Hishu Titor), a correspondent of the Japanese television company. The mujahidin have increased their attacks on Kabul. Are you confident of reducing tension and of foiling their guerrilla attacks? Also, an NBC correspondent from the United States asks: When Kabul is facing seige, despite the existence of the Soviet contingents, how long will the city be able to resist the seige after the withdrawal of Soviet limited contingents?

[Najibullah] All security and defensive measures in Kabul city have been carried out by the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan. However, you should know that the Soviet military contingents have not participated in military activities in Kabul city for a very long time. Kabul city has satisfactory, powerful, and strong defensive capabilities. The extremists are not able and will never be able to implement a siege of Kabul. Kabul will defend itself against any attack. We will prove this fact to everyone.

[Moderator] Thank you. The daily PAYAM has sent the following question: The Soviet Union and Afghanistan have extensive military, economic, and cultural cooperation relations. How will Afghan-Soviet relations develop? Please tell us what sort of committment the Soviet Union has made toward the people of Afghanistan under the present difficult conditions.

[Najibullah] The all-round and expanded cooperation ties between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union are based on various protocols. All these protocols are still enforced and are being observed with complete integrity. Afghan-Soviet cooperation will continue to be built on the principles of equal rights and mutual interests. As you know, our Soviet friends are presently rendering assistance to the Republic of Afghanistan in all spheres of traditional cooperation. First and foremost they provide fuel, wheat, flour, and other important items needed by the people.

[Moderator] Question by Richard Weintraub from THE WASHINGTON POST. The oppositionists in your government want to form a consultative council in the near future. Will the formation of this council be a blow to the [word indistinct] of your government? Such gatherings have been the traditional way of making decisions. Also Mr. (Izawa), from the Japanese daily ASAHI, asks: Do you think that before the withdrawal, agreement will be reached on forming a coalition government with the opposition groups.

[Najibullah] Experience has shown that neither of the forces are able to establish peace and security in the Republic of Afghanistan on their own. The very basic principle is that in order to ensure peace and security in the country and in order to make decisions for the future of the country, all the forces who are involved in the war should take part. The council, which the oppositionists of the Republic of Afghanistan want to form—if it is able to ensure the just participation or representation of the concerned sides—then such a council is legitimate. Otherwise it has no legitimacy and will be in contravention of the traditional norms of the creation of jirgas and councils in Afghanistan. If such a council is able to ensure the representation of all the involved forces who are able to ensure peace in the country, then undoubtedly we will approve of it.

[Moderator] Thank you. Mr John Witherow, of the SUNDAY TIMES and Mr Saint-Jacob of AFP have asked the following questions: Do you approve of Mr Vorontsov's decision to resume negotiations with the Afghan opposition in Pakistan and Iran? Do you agree with holding such talks?

Also Mr [name indistinct], of Japanese television has asked: [passage indistinct] How do you form a future interim government with the participation of the mujahidin?

[Najibullah] I want, in the framework of the national reconciliation policy, to express the desire of the leadership of Afghanistan to resume negotiations with the opposition. Its need and purpose is embodied in the fact that it conforms with the interests of Afghanistan's people, the demand of Afghanistan's people, and with the aim of ensuring peace and security in the country.

[Moderator] Thank you. A question by the BBC correspondent: Now that the Soviet forces are preparing to leave Afghanistan, what additional preparations have you adopted to defend your regime?

[Najibullah] Our preparations for independently defending the country, its territorial integrity, and independence have not just started today. For ages the Afghans have discharged their national obligations. If you are suggesting that a vacuum will exist after the withdrawal of Soviet forces, be sure that our Armed Forces and our various reserve forces are able and prepared to independently defend the country after the Soviet forces withdraw. Not only are they stronger and better equipped than they were in the past from a quantitative point of view, but also from a qualitative point of view. They are able to meritoriously fulfill their duties. If necessary, we have reserves which we can bring into action.

[Moderator] Thank you. A question by [word indistinct], reporter of Fuji television of Japan: Some Western diplomats say that the situation in the country will be very difficult in the coming few months and that the Afghan Government will face serious problems. What is your opinion?

[Najibullah] These prophesies rather entail propaganda and divulge the real intention of their preachers rather than being a realistic analysis of the situation. The aim of these prophesies is to weaken the people's morale and to paint a false picture of the future of our country. But we are realists and do not want to ignore the hardships that may arise during the coming months. Our efforts are aimed at alleviating these hardships, for which we have aleady taken action. And we will overcome these difficulties.

[Moderator] Thank you. A reporter of NBC: Your government has made progress in the sphere of women's rights and regulating education. Will these advancements disappear under a future government?

[Najibullah] If by a future government you mean a broad-based coalition government, then in such a government we and other progressive forces will defend the rights of Afghanistan's women, who form half of Afghanistan's society. And not only will the present advances be safeguarded but also better grounds, which peaceful conditions will bring about, will be created for the women of our country. However, if you mean a government proposed by the extremists, then the propaganda network of some countries only preaches about this matter. We resolutely state that our people will never give ground to such a government.

[Moderator] Thank you. A question by Richard Weintraub of THE WASHINGTON POST: Do you intend to expand your military bases in crisis areas such as Jalalabad and Qandahar?

[Najibullah] Our military doctrine is of a defensive nature. However, if the other side tries to close the path of negotiations, it should expect our attack.

[Moderator] Thank you. Robert Fox from THE DAILY TELEGRAPH and John Witherow from THE SUNDAY TIMES and an ASSOCIATED PRESS reporter have asked the following questions: Can you tell us the reason behind last week's attack, considered by diplomats in Islamabad as ruthless? Can you give details on the cessation of contacts with Ahmad Shah Mas'ud? Why did the large-scale attack take place along the Salang highway? Please shed light on the casualties of both sides in the operation. How many have been killed or wounded in the recent fighting in Salang?

[Najibullah] After conducting peaceful measures during the past 3 years, the contents of which have been disclosed to the public through the mass media, we were compelled to open the Salang highway by military means. The reason was clear: Tens of thousands of people, hundreds of thousands of people, children, women and the elderly, suffered from hunger and the cold weather. In the Salang operation, the robbers who looted goods needed by the people were crushed. They were highway robbers. We are surprised at hearing the terms ruthlessness and aggressiveness.

Is there a more ruthless action than depriving thousands of people of bread in the severe cold of winter? Why in that sense are the terms ruthless and aggressive not used in that sense? Ages ago we asked Ahmad Shah Mas'ud to answer the call of reconciliation, but he did not heed those demands. Full responsibility for what has happened in Salang or will happen in the future rests with those who thought that they could show Kabul residents with hunger or press their stained hands on the throats of the orphans and widows, whose cries have reached the sky. Because we are the real and honest sons of our people we never will allow such people to press the throats of the Kabul residents. We will continue our struggle to the extent of losing our lives to provide bread for the Kabul residents. The statement of the high command of the armed forces about the details of the Salang operation has been published. You can refer to them to obtain the answers of your other questions.

[Moderator] Thank you. Mr Kitawa from ASAHI of Japan asks: Will your power continue after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces?

[Najibullah] The more diplomatic I answer, the less friends know. Let us say it clearly. Yes, it will continue. I have given sufficient reason for it. The Armed Force are sufficient to defend popular sovereignty. Not only will we defend ourselves but we are also confident that our opposition will have the bitter taste of their selfishness and warmongering ambitions.

[Moderator] Thank you. Richard Weintraub of THE WASHINGTON POST asks: Can you assess the situation after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces? Can your forces defend Kabul and other cities without resorting to Air Force and artillery bombardment as recently happened in Salang?

[Najibullah] I repeat and insist that after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces they will be able to resolutely defend the security and interests of their people. However, in the fighting which is going on now the other side is using rocket and artillery fire against the residents of cities and residential areas more than ever in the past. The extremists have been conducting fewer confrontations with the Armed Forces. Against these acts, naturally, we will make use of all of our possibilities to safeguard the interests of our people.

[Moderator] Richard Weintraub of THE WASHINGTON POST asks: The Soviet Union entered this country with great hopes for the restoration of peace and the introduction of changes. Soviet analysts believe that not only has peace not been secured, but changes also have not taken place so far. Looking at the past, do you think that entering into such close relations with the Soviet Union was a wise move, and whether the Afghan society would have been so shattered, as it is now, if another way has been adopted?

And a question by (Marlo Rolinski) from ASSOCIATED PRESS: What gains have the Soviet soldiers achieved during their 9 years in Afghanistan, and where have they failed to gain the achievements Afghanistan wanted? Also, a question by the Japanese television company: Soviet forces have been in Afghanistan since 1979 and now the historic moment has arrived. Esteemed President, how do you assess this event and also the Soviet forces' 9 years in Afghanistan?

[Najibullah] My answer is embodied in your question. You said in your question that the Soviet Union came to Afghanistan with a great hope of ensuring peace. The world should judge and you should judge for yourself, which forces did not allow peace to be ensured in Afghanistan. That is number one. Second, when you say that the Soviet Union came to Afghanistan with great hopes for ensuring peace, that means war already existed in Afghanistan. Who financed this war and from where? From inside the country? No. It was financed from another country, from our neighboring country, Pakistan.

So, interference and aggression is continuing in our country. The existence of armed groups and camps of anti-state groups in Pakistan were formed before the April revolution in Pakistan. Intervention continued in our country. The Soviet limited contingents came to our country at our invitation in order to foil this interference and aggression. However, let us face this new reality. All the Soviet limited contingents are leaving Afghanistan and you, the journalists have also come for this reason. However, are these Pakistani centers of armed interference in the affairs of Afghanistan now not more powerful than they were a few years ago? Are these centers active? They should have been completely eliminated during the last 9 months in accordance with the Geneva accords. However, I am sure that you now understand the truth about the arrival of the Soviet forces.

[Moderator] Thank you. A question by a BIA correspondent: The United States is one of the guarantors of the Geneva accords. What role has this country played in ensuring peace in Afghanistan?

[Najibullah] On 14 April 1988, when the Geneva accords were signed, the United States signed as a guarantor. Unfortunately, the fact that the extremist opposition continues the war and bloodshed in our country is mainly due to the financial and military assistance of the United States. We hope at the present stage, when the implementation of the geneva accords is in a sensitive and serious stage, that the United States will consider the serious importance of international relations. Based on political realism, it should adopt a constructive stand and accept its committments as a guarantor of the Geneva accords in a manner befitting such a great civilized state.

[Moderator] Thank you. Esteemed President, the questions which were asked in written form by the esteemed foreign and domestic journalists have ended. This proves that all the questions which were submitted to you have been answered. If you will allow, there may be some verbal questions. It is up to you.

[Najibullah] Of course. Please go ahead.

[Moderator] A [UK] DAILY STAR correspondent asks: After the Soviet limited contingents withdraw from Afghanistan the mujahidin's initial strategy will be to seize Jalalabad, then to establish an interim government there. In this way they hope to attract the support of the Islamic countries and also of the Western countries. Please shed light on this issue.

The second question is a request by some of the journalists who would like to remain in Kabul after 15 February in order to confirm your claims to the effect that the government will be in charge and that peace will prevail. Will you allow their visas to be extended?

[Najibullah] In connection with the first part of your question, it should be said that these are old songs and melodies. We remember the first stage of the withdrawal of the Soviet limited contingents, when the opposition fixed 1 June as the date to conquer Jalalabad. But, what is the date today? It is 3 February. I think such a fact is the manifestation of a logical reply to your question. In connection with your second question, the relevant authorities of the Republic of Afghanistan will carry out the necessary measures.

[Moderator] A journalist from Munich, Germany says that recently Zahir Shah's name has appeared in our press and daily papers. Would you expect Zahir Shah, after the complete withdrawal of Soviet troops, to help restore peace in his country, in your country. Will you be willing to step down from your post if the involvement of the former king brings a political settlement.

[Najibullah] In connection with ensuring peace and security in the country, we have announced several times that Muhammad Zahir, the former king of Afghanistan, can play an effective role. We hope that with the removal of the existing pretext concerning the Soviet limited contingents in Afghanistan, every Afghan, wherever he is, with a feeling of responsibility toward his people and homeland, will play his role at this sensitive, difficult, but historic and proud moment.

The main question is to ensure peace and security, and to resolve politically the issues in and around Afghanistan. As I mentioned before, the removal of a person or the rejection of a person or personalities does not resolve the issues.

[Moderator] A UPI correspondent asks: The Washington press has reported that during the withdrawal of the Soviet forces along the highway a series of savage attacks on civilians took place. Do you think such savage attacks will continue until the Soviet withdrawal is completed?

[Najibullah] I have already spoken in detail about our operations along the Salang highway and particularly about the use of the word "savage." I trust the esteemed journalist has paid attention to my statements. As for the withdrawal of the limited Soviet contingents via the highway, you heard General Gromov explain his stance at a press conference. If the opposite side savagely attacks us, we will give them a satisfactory and bone-crushing reply.

[Moderator] Thank you. He [not further identified] wants to make his colleague's question clear: During the withdrawal of the Soviet limited contingents via the Salang highway hundreds of civilians were killed. Can you give us an accurate figure on casualties? The second part of his question is: What is the exact date for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Kabul? We have heard that they will start their withdrawal from Kabul in a few days.

[Najibullah] The statement issued by the Afghan Armed Forces High Command on the operations in southern Salang and along the Salang highway asked all civilians and nonmilitary people to try to negotiate with Ahmad Shah Mas'ud so that he would stop attacking the food convoys needed to meet the demands of Kabul's residents. If they do not talk to him, then these people should evacuate their homes. In this connection, a tribal jirga with 200 people from among the local elders was held in Parvan Province by the local administrative offices before operations began, only a few days before the beginning of operations. At that jirga, the stance of the Republic of Afghanistan and the statement of the High Command were explained to them once again. A large number of people left their homes to go to northern Salang and to Jabal os Saraj where assistance and cooperation were rendered by the state.

However, there is some information that a number of innocent people were not allowed to leave their homes but were forcibly detained by Ahmad Shah Mas'ud's groups. Therefore, if there have been any casualities among innocent people, the full and complete responsibility for it rests with Ahmad Shah Mas'ud and his armed groups.

In the Geneva accords we set only one date for the full withdrawal of the Soviet limited contingents from Kabul—15 February. Now comrades want me to give them dates for each city. You will see here with your own eyes that the contingents will be withdrawn from Kabul and all cities by 15 February.

[Moderator] Thank you. One of the impressive achievements of your policies during the years of revolution has to do with women's and nationality affairs. These policies were aimed at removing discrimination among nationalities and ensuring the rights of individuals. She [not further identified] wants to know: How is your state strengthened as a result of following such a policy? The second part of her question is: Will the future coalition government provide for such basic rights as the right to vote, to study, to work, and others?

[Najibullah] I replied to the first part of your question when I answered a similar one earlier. Your second question, it should be said clearly that the extremists' prejudiced stance has been expressed by their leaders not only once but several times. They want to trample on the rights of individuals in society and the country's progress and development. We consider such a stance to be solid prejudice. It is illogical and out of step with the contemporary world and the development process in our society.

[Moderator] Thank you. Despite the fact that the journalists have asked many questions both in written and verbal form... [moderator changes thought] But I can see that a BBC representative has a question. The BBC representative says that although the state is making every effort to remove the food shortages, and although the Soviet forces are delivering food by air and distributing it in localities and collectives, we are witnessing food shortages in the cities and people are suffering. At the same time, the state claims that it has removed people's difficulties. How do you assess this contradiction?

The second part of her question is: There is a growing nervousness among your Armed Forces and among the people. The people are afraid that there will not be enough supplies, that the war will continue, and you will not be able to defend the city against the mujahidin's attack. As the leader of your country, you must be aware of the people's nervousness and I want to know what are you going to do about it?

[Najibullah] This question was like a speech. I will give a brief reply. Construction is more difficult than destruction. You should think badly about those who steal and plunder the goods needed by the people. However, I assure you, and I have repeated this several times, that we have overcome this situation now. In the future too, these highways will remain open and the requirements of the people will be met. Naturally we have difficulties. We have overcome them now and the future will be the guarantor of all.

As for the ability and capability of the Armed Forces, I do not want to repeat these issues again. I only want to look forward. Time will show you the facts and everything will be proved to you.

[Moderator] Thank you. The journalists questions have ended. Esteemed President, I thank you on my behalf and on behalf of all the domestic and foreign journalists. The news conference is over.

[Najibullah] Thank you.

### BAKHTAR Reports News Conference

*LD0402064389 Kabul BAKHTAR in English*
*0424 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Kabul, Feb. 3, BAKHTAR—Based on our earlier request and the consent of the Soviet Union and in full conformity with the Geneva agreements, all the remaining regiments of the Soviet forces are now returning to their peaceful country. Nowadays, every patriotic Afghan expresses his gratitude to the soldiers and officers of the friendly country, the Soviet Union, by bidding warm farewell to them, said Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, in a news conference for local and foreign pressmen held here on Thursday.

The enemies of our people and opponents of peace in Afghanistan, the head of the Afghan state went on, have constantly repeated that the Soviet Union had occupied our country and that Soviet troops would remain here forever. When it became clear that the Soviet and Afghan Government's decision on the withdrawal of Soviet troops was final, those who stood to gain politically and materially from this war went out of their way to thwart the Soviet pullout, eager as they were to preserve the main pretext for outside interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and for continuing the hostilities. It is perfectly clear now that our decision has torpedoed all the propaganda subterfuges and calculations of our enemies.

Najibullah pointed out that only the Republic of Afghanistan and the USSR had observed the letter and spirit of the Geneva accords, had carried them out consistently. As to Pakistan, it not only failed to honour its own commitments, but has expanded the armed intervention and aggression against Afghanistan both quantitatively and qualitatively, has trampled underfoot many provisions of the Geneva accords. During the period that has elapsed after the signing of the Geneva documents, extremist formations, armed with weapons received through Pakistan, have launched 557 attacks on military targets, towns and other populated localities, have set off 403 explosive devices in crowded urban quarters. They have carried out more than 2,300 fire assaults on different targets, launching or firing more than 200 thousand missiles, mines and shells. All this took a toll of more than seven thousand lives. More than twelve thousand people were wounded, including many civilians.

Furthermore, the Pakistani Army and irregular formations have joined more and more actively in armed and subversive actions perpetrated by opposition groups. We possess irrefutable proofs of such actions, carried out in the past few months in Qandahar, Paktia, Paktika and Nangarhar Provinces. Unfortunately, the United States, though seeing all this, failed to fulfil its commitments as guarantor of the Geneva accords.

The president noted that attempts of the leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan to achieve national accord among the conflicting parties were seriously complicated by the intransigence of the Afghan extremist opposition groups, enjoying support from outside forces. We have informed world public opinion, the United Nations and our own people in great detail about all these facts.

Dwelling on the military and political situation in the country, the president expressed the conviction that the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and its political allies, the country's Armed Forces were able to defend the people and the country, to rebuff resolutely, if it comes to it, the attacks and subversive actions of the opposition's extremist elements. Nevertheless, he said, we again declare our firm resolution to continue the policy of national reconciliation. We are convinced that the prospects of peace in our country depend largely on a comprehensive political solution, [word indistinct] on the equal rights and interests of all forces, on the creation of a broad coalition. We urge the Government of Pakistan to reconsider in its policy vis-a-vis Afghanistan. We stand for goodneighbourly relations with all the bordering states.

Sending of the limited contingent of Soviet troops, President Najibullah stressed, we are aware that Afghan-Soviet friendship will remain forever a determining factor in our efforts to ensure peace and security in Afghanistan.

The president replied to numerous questions posed by domestic and foreign journalists.

Over 80 journalists from 15 different countries had participated in the press conference, which lasted for about three hours.

## Mujahidin Criticize Shevardnadze 'Interference'

*WA0602174589 Paris AFP in English 1731 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 6 (AFP) - The Afghan resistance Monday sharply criticized Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze for insisting on a future role for the ruling party in Kabul and rejected any further contact with Moscow.

The chief of the Pakistan-based resistance alliance's publicity wing, Qaribur Rehman Saeed, said Mr. Shevardnadze's support for the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) was interference in Afghan affairs.

The Soviet foreign minister said Monday before ending a two-day visit here that he regretted that the rebels were reluctant to give representation to the PDPA and warned that denying the party a role could trigger civil war.

Mr. Saeed said the rebels needed "no advice from any foreign power" about representation in a traditional council to be held near here Friday to choose a government, adding that they would never accept "criminals" in the council.

He rejected any talks with the Soviet Union on the future of Afghanistan.

"We do not want any contact with the Soviet Union and we do not want to see him (Mr. Shevardnadze)," Mr. Saeed said, adding: "We will put them on trial for the crime and bloodshed in our country."

Mr. Shevardnadze, who had extended his stay here amid hopes that he would meet the rebels, told reporters he had never asked for such a meeting nor did the mujahidin express a desire to meet with him.

"The Soviet Union must stop interfering in Afghanistan if they want the bloodshed to end," said Gulbbudin Hikmatyar, leader of a radical faction of the fundamentalist Hezb-e Eslami resistance group.

"The next few weeks will decide the strength of the PDPA," he added, commenting on Mr. Shevardnadze's warning of civil war.

He claimed the Soviet Union had supplied "the most modern arms including chemical weapons which the regime wants to use against the Afghan people."

But he added: "We will continue jihad (holy war) until the PDPA regime is replaced by an Islamic government in Afghanistan."

Muhammad Yunis Khalis, chief of another Hezb-e Eslami faction, said: "We consider the Soviets our enemy and we will never give them a mediator's role."

"The Soviet threats cannot force us to change our path," he vowed, adding that the rebels would never accept PDPA members in their consultative council or shura as "they are not Moslems."

The council will have "only practicing Moslems," he said.

In a separate development, rebel leaders held a lengthy meeting Monday with the U.N. coordinator for humanitarian aid to Afghanistan, Prince Sadruddin Agha Khan, demanding that relief be channeled through mujahidin organizations.

"The Afghan airports and bases and aircraft would be under attack," the rebels warned, saying that if the aid was sent to the Kabul regime directly it could result in fighting, according to a spokesman.

The U.N. is trying to organize an air bridge to bring urgently needed food supplies to Kabul.

Moscow said Monday that the last Soviet troops had left the Afghan capital ahead of the February 15 deadline for a full Soviet pullout from Afghanistan.

## Soviet Union Offers To Halt Bombing of Cities

*BK0602054489 Hong Kong AFP in English 0537 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 6 (AFP)—The Soviet Union has offered to stop bombing raids from Soviet territory against rebel mujahidin targets in Afghanistan after the completion of the Soviet troop withdrawal, it was reported here Monday.

The official PAKISTAN TIMES quoted well-informed sources as saying that the offer was part of a peace package Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze proposed to Pakistan leaders in talks here Sunday.

The package included an offer to stop bombing mujahidin targets from Soviet bases after the completion of a Soviet troop withdrawal provided that agreement had been reached on the composition of a broadbased Kabul government proposed by the mujahidin, the report said.

Mr. Shevardnadze had been due to leave here Sunday but extended his stay for another day as prospects of the Afghan situation being salvaged from imminent chaos after the Soviet pull out brightened, THE PAKISTAN TIMES said.

The broad outlines of the Soviet package had been communicated to Pakistan before Mr. Shevardnadze's trip, the paper said adding that attempts were now being made to finalise a tripartite agreement involving the

Afghan mujahidin rebels, the Soviet Union and Pakistan before the Soviet foreign minister left Pakistan later Monday. Mr. Shevardnadze was due to give a press conference before leaving.

The agreement would include undertakings from both Pakistan and the Soviet Union not to supply arms to the warring parties inside Afghanistan or to allow arms for them to transit their territory.

The mujahidin have agreed to include some "good Moslems" who are not members of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) in their proposed consultative council which is due to name an interim government on Friday.

The paper said the resistance leaders may include 19 non-PDPA individuals in their interim government.

### Mujahidin 'Threat' Cited

*LD0302124589 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1110 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[By Aleksandr Stanic]

[Text] Islamabad, February 3 (TANJUG)—Unless the Soviet Union ends its mass bombing now of targets inside Afghanistan, the mujahidin will start attacking targets inside the Soviet territory.

The above threat was voiced at his Peshawar press conference by Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, one of the most radical leaders of rebels in Afghanistan while evaluating raids by Soviet and Afghan warplanes along the Salang motorway as "A Soviet revenge for the defeat they have suffered in Afghanistan."

Last week, settlements along the Salang motorway leading from Kabul to the Soviet frontier were fiercely bombed daily and, according to reports from both mujahidin and the official Kabul, several hundred people got killed. While the mujahidin claim that bombed were "civilian settlements," the Kabul-based Soviet command made it known that rebel strongholds were being attacked so as to make it possible for convoys transporting food supplies for Kabul to pass and for the remaining Soviet units to pull out.

With a mere few days left in anticipation of an all-out withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, it is becoming growingly clear that the Mujahidin are not planning an early attack on the capital of Kabul, nor on other major centres. This was also confirmed by Hikmatyar by saying that "not being planned for the time being are any frontal attacks on Kabul or any other bigger city," the mujahidin "being convinced that the communist regime will be destroyed from inside."

A like statement was also made by Ahmed Gillani, leader of "the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan," who "expressed his hope to see the Soviet Union act rationally and remove Najibullah so as to avoid an offensive by the insurgents on Kabul."

It being known that another, a third insurgent leader, Rabbani, stated the other day, too, that no attacks on major cities are forthcoming, it seems that, at least in the first weeks after a Soviet withdrawal, no major action should be expected on the side of the mujahidin for, in all likelihood, they are not strong enough to undertake such largescale operations. Being feverishly prepared at the headquarters of the insurgent movement, in the city of Peshawar, Pakistan, is a session of the Shura (consultative assembly) which should meet in session around February 10. Out of the 519 Shura seats in all, each of the seven Peshawar-seated insurgent organisations is to delegate 60 representatives or as many as meant for the mujahidin from Iran, and another 19 seats have been provided for "good Moslems from Kabul."

The Shura, it was indicated, should vote its confidence in the "provisional government of the Mujahidin" and take decisions "of importance for the state organisation of Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal and the (?Najibullah) government's fall."

### Soviets Reportedly Holding Political Prisoners

*BK0402010689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1944 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 3 (AFP)—Most of the political prisoners held in jails in Kabul have been moved to detention centres under Soviet control, the pro-resistance AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY said here Friday.

The report could not be independently confirmed.

The agency, citing reliable sources, said the Soviet authorities would "probably" transfer the detainees from the centres to the Soviet Union and try to use them in future negotiations with the mujahidin rebels.

Mujahidin leaders have in the past accused the Soviet Union of holding Afghan detainees in Soviet territory.

A convoy of several hundred Soviet military vehicles left Kabul early Friday as Soviet troops continued their withdrawal from Afghanistan ahead of a February 15 deadline specified under last year's Geneva peace accords.

### Pakistan 'Allegation' on Plane Crash Rejected

*LD0302162189 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] The Foreign Ministry Information Department has reported that the charge d'affaires of the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul was summoned this morning to the Foreign Ministry and the acting director of the First Political Department made the following points to him.

Despite the unpleasant fact that the Pakistani Air Force, ignoring all principles of aviation and contrary to humanitarian feelings, downed an Afghan transport aircraft on 31 January, martyring all passengers, the Pakistani Foreign Ministry, to cover up this inhumane action, has claimed that this aircraft was violating Pakistani airspace and then crashed after hitting trees.

This allegation by the Pakistani Government, conveyed to the charge d'affaires of the Afghan Embassy in Islamabad on 3 February, is totally unfounded and is an effort to distort facts.

Rejecting this unfounded allegation by Pakistani authorities, the Afghan Foreign Ministry once again expresses its repulsion for this inhumane action which killed nine of our innocent compatriots. It asks that the bodies of those martyred in this tragic mishap be handed over to the Afghan side as soon as possible.

## French Journalist Wounded by Soviet Soldier

*BK0302121589 Hong Kong AFP in English 1156 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] Kabul, Feb 3 (AFP)—A French journalist was shot and slightly wounded here Friday by a Soviet soldier outside a Soviet military camp, eyewitnesses said.

Jean-Francois Leven of the weekly L'EXPRESS was wounded in the thigh when he tried to leave the camp in a taxi with two other French journalists, the eyewitnesses said.

The three correspondents were outside the camp in the outskirts of Kabul from where Soviet convoys gather before starting their journey home through the Salang highway linking Kabul to the Soviet border.

Soviet troops are to have completed their withdrawal from Afghanistan by February 15 under a Geneva peace accord.

A Soviet soldier began shouting at the correspondents and shot his Kalashnikov rifle three or four times at the ground only a few meters from the journalists, the eyewitnesses said.

The journalists drew back and entered the taxi, but the soldier shot again, this time hitting the car. The bullet went through, injuring Mr. Leven, the eyewitnesses said.

Several soldiers were selling unspecified objects to young Afghans across the wire fence at the camp and the presence of the journalists taking pictures apparently bothered them, said the eyewitnesses.

Mr. Leven was taken to the International Red Cross Hospital, where he was said to be out of danger.

## French Charge d'Affaires Preparing To Leave

*LD0502234289 Paris Domestic Service in French 2300 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Diplomats serving in Kabul are continuing to pack their bags. Following the British departures, it is the turn of Raymond Petit, charge d'affaires at the French Embassy, to leave the country.

## Sharq Sends Appeals to Agha Khan, UN for Aid

*LD0402205589 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Dr Muhammad Hasan Sharq, prime minister of the Republic of Afghanistan, has recently sent similar messages addressed to His Excellency Perez de Cuellar, UN general secretary, and His Excellency Sadruddin Agha Khan, organizer of humanitarian and economic assistance of the international society, in order to attract UN assistance, humanitarian endeavors and economic assistance for to Afghanistan.

The message addressed to His Excellency Sadruddin Agha Khan is as follows:

One of my fondest memories is of meeting Your Excellency and discovering your goodwill and profound perception concerning the alleviation of the difficulties of your Afghan Muslim brethren. Taking the opportunity of your goodwill and humanitarian perception we would like to inform you about existing conditions in Afghanistan.

Your excellency knows that unforutnately, in addition to the imposition of the continuation of war with all its severity on our country, now the innocent persecuted Muslim people of Afghanistan are under siege from the point of view of the supply of foodstuffs and other basic commodities.

We fully share the view with you that no group or branch, whether it supports or opposes the government, must be tortured by inhumane actions, such as the torture of hunger and poverty. With the perception of responsibility and in respecting your humane belief we have carried out necessary cooperation to provide all the necessary conditions for distributing everything at our disposal and we have tried to distribute the basic commodities needed by the people in a general and just manner. We did not even keep foodstuff from opposition groups who wanted to receive a reasonable amount to meet their needs by use of force and coercion.

Undesirable weather and the security situation along the roads and communication lines in 1988 had an undesirable effect on the amount of agriculture production of the country and the supply to populated regions. For example, the amount of production in the country in 1988 was less than half of the production in 1987.

All these difficulties and the threat of hunger and poverty forced us to distribute a portion of the commodities that were allocated by the Soviet Union for the humanitarian and economic assistance of international society to Afghanistan, to put at the disposal of the misery-stricken population hit by war and disaster who are recently being faced with hunger too, without consideration of their political views.

Personally, I visited the storehouses of foodstuffs and commodities sent by the Soviet Union which are now being stored in Hayratan and Mazar-e Sharif. Unfortunately the possibility of their distribution and transport to Kabul Province and other provinces, has been confronted with the difficulties of serious antagonism as a result of merciless stealing by the opposition.

With all respect, we expect Your Excellency to take immediate and uninterupted action for the removal, transport, and distribution of the goods given by the USSR from the border of Afghanistan under the supervision of your organization. We also expect that other countries and humanitarian institutions who want to send their humanitarian assistance to the war-stricken people of Afghanistan, to dispatch this assistance as soon as possible under the supervision of Your Excellency so that we, with each other's all-round assistance, can prevent the occurrence of a formidable and dangerous calamity which threatens our Muslim, innocent and war-stricken nation.

On behalf of the government and people of Afghanistan I want to express my sincere thanks for the UN good offices and humanitarian efforts for the realization of humanitarian and economic assistance to Afghanistan.

With respect,

Muhammad Hasan Sharq, prime minister of the Republic of Afghanistan

## Government Officials Leaving Kabul for Delhi

*BK0602050889 Hong Kong AFP in English 0454 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[By Pratap Chakravarty]

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 6 (AFP)—Several Afghan Government officials have fled to India from Kabul as the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan nears completion, Afghan sources here said Monday.

State-run Indian Airlines and Afghanistan's state-run Aryana Airlines flights have been arriving heavily laden as officials, diplomats and civilians are leaving the Afghan capital amid fears of turmoil after the withdrawal.

The Indian Embassy, which last week sent back its dependents for security reasons, has been issuing more than 200 visas a day since October and is currently handling thousands of applications, government sources said here.

Among unexpected arrivals at New Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport Saturday were the wife and son of Afghan Prime Minister Muhammad Hasan Sharq, who arrived as ordinary passengers but were welcomed by Afghan diplomats.

Their reasons for being here were unknown, but Kabul is suffering acute fuel and food shortages due to a rebel "economic blockade" and bad weather while security problems have prompted virtually all Western embassies there to close.

People arriving from Kabul at the weekend linked increasing tension in the capital to the possible collapse of President Najibullah's communist regime. Diplomats have warned of a possible military coup in Kabul.

Several Politburo members of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) have been secretly seeking visas at the Indian Embassy in the Afghan capital, Kabul-based diplomats arriving here said.

Observers said PDPA members would be main targets for reprisals if the mujahidin rebels besieging Kabul manage to take the city.

(An Afghan official in Kabul confirmed Sunday that all members of the PDPA had been armed and said there were 60,000 fighters in Kabul, a figure which could not be independently verified).

Several Afghan Government officials have arrived in New Delhi since the beginning of the year and have been extending their stays here, Afghan sources said, without being able to give a specific number.

A number of officials from the powerful Afghan Interior Ministry, which controls the secret police KHAD, have reportedly obtained visas from the Indian Embassy in Kabul, the sources added.

A senior Afghan Foreign Ministry official arrived here Tuesday with his wife, two children and a close relative. He said he had come here for medical treatment for his wife and added that he would be staying "quite some time."

Another government official, reportedly holding an advisor's rank in the government, said on arrival last Monday that he had come to visit his daughter. He later admitted that his visit was linked to growing uncertainty in Kabul.

Several journalists with Afghanistan's government-controlled media have made it out of Kabul, officials here said.

India is the only non-communist country to give visas in Afghanistan. The Western missions had merely issued letters of recommendations for a visa.

West Germany, Britain, United States and Bangladesh have closed their embassies in Kabul while France was to close its mission Monday.

Other missions have begun to scale down their staff ahead of the February 15 deadline for the Soviet withdrawal set under last year's Geneva accords.

(The last Soviet troops have left Kabul for the border, the Soviet Government newspaper PRAVDA said Monday.

(Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov has said that the Soviet withdrawal would be completed by Wednesday, a week ahead of the deadline).

Afghans living in India visit the airport here every day and often wait hours to see whether their relatives are on an Indian Airlines or state-run Afghan Aryana Airlines flight, their only air route out of the country.

"One visa from the Indian Embassy means another life saved," one newly-arrived Afghan woman said, adding that her son, a government official, was still hoping to leave Kabul.

There are some 40,000 people of Indian origin living in Afghanistan.

## Sharq's Family Arrives in India

*OW0602013589 Beijing Domestic Service in Mandarin 2230 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] According to the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA, the wife and son of the Kabul regime's Prime Minister Sharq arrived in New Delhi from Kabul via an Air India aircraft on 4 February. They had left Kabul for safety reasons.

## Afghans Begin Arriving in Peshawar for Council

*BK0202143189 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 2 Feb 89*

[Text] Persons selected by the Afghan mujahidin alliance to attend the Afghan Consultative Council have started converging on Peshawar from various places. The AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY reported that Afghan refugees living in Pakistan and Iran and Afghans from various walks of life have been invited. Meanwhile, former chief of the seven-party alliance engineer Gulbuddin Hekmatyar announced that the proposed consultative council session comprising 519 persons will be held on the 10th of this month. Addressing a news conference, he said the supreme council of the alliance has decided to elect an interim consultative council that will be equivalent to an interim government. It will be formed within 6 months.

## Rival Factions Sign Pact

*LD0502181189 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] At the conclusion this afternoon of the third round of talks between Mr Mojadeddi, the chairman of Afghanistan's seven-party Islamic alliance, and the council of Afghanistan's Islamic coalition, held in the presence of the Iranian foreign minister, Messers Mojadeddi and Khalili—the chairman of the seven-party alliance and the spokesman for the eight-party council of Afghanistan's Islamic coalition respectively—signed a unity and friendly cooperation pact for the sake of the Islamic future of the nation of Afghanistan.

## Kabul Planning To Give Province to Shi'ite Rebels

*BK0502102689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1009 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 5 (AFP)—At least 60 Afghan soldiers have defected to the mujahidin in southern Ghazni amid speculation that Kabul plans to hand over control of the province to minority Shi'ite rebels, resistance sources said.

The soldiers defected to the militarily stronger Sunni groups in the area, the sources said Saturday [4 February].

Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov, during visits to Iran and Pakistan last month in search of a political settlement to the Afghan situation, had offered an autonomous Shi'ite region in the central Hazarajat Provinces to Iran-based Shi'ite groups.

The Hazarajat region includes Ghazni, Oruzgan and Bamian Provinces. The sources said the mujahidin initially rejected the proposal, seeing it as a Soviet move to divide the resistance.

While most Afghans are Sunni Moslems, Iranian Moslems are predominantly Shi'ites.

A guerrilla leader said the government had offered control of Ghazni city to Major Syed Hassan from the Shura Ettefaq group of the Iran-based Shi'ite party led by Syed Ali Beheshti to "prevent the city's fall to rebels and to create a wedge between the two Moslem sects."

But the Afghan regime restated the offer after differences cropped up between Pakistan-based Sunni groups and their Iranian counterparts on the composition of the traditional consultative council (shura) which is due to meet on Friday [10 February] to elect an interim government for Afghanistan.

The interim government will take over once Soviet troops complete their withdrawal on February 15 in line with a United Nations-brokered accord.

Unconfirmed reports said Kabul intensified efforts to attract the Shi'ites as the rival Sunnis took up positions in mountains overlooking Ghazni and laid siege to the city. The Sunnis are reportedly only 15 kilometres (nine miles) from the city centre.

### Soviet Withdrawal, Situation in Kabul Updated

*BK0402010089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1902 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] Kabul, Feb 3 (AFP)—A convoy of several hundred Soviet military vehicles left here early on Friday, as heavy snowfalls brought emergency airlifts of food for the stricken city to a virtual halt, sources said.

Witnesses said the armoured convoy took three hours to pass through the city streets, which by morning were covered by up to 20 centimetres (eight inches) of snow. The convoy was reportedly heading for the Salang highway—the only open road leading from Kabul to the Soviet Union.

The witnesses could not estimate the precise number of vehicles involved.

Soviet troops have been leaving during the night or early morning for several days, sources said, as the February 15 deadline approaches for a complete Soviet withdrawal, as specified by a U.N.-brokered accord last April.

Western diplomatic sources estimated on Friday that 3,000 to 5,000 Soviet soldiers were left in the capital, out of an original complement of 20,000.

Preparations for further withdrawals were being made on Friday at Khain Khanna Camp, where the convoys are marshalled prior to heading north.

But the snowfalls have stopped practically all the emergency airlifts, which began last week, after increased attacks by rebel forces along the Salang highway.

Western diplomats were preparing to leave on Friday, but a planned departure by staff of the French and British Embassies has been postponed until Saturday because of the weather.

The nineteen British Embassy staff, including Charge D'affaires Ian Mackley and Gurkha soldiers responsible for security, and a group of four French diplomats were due to fly to New Delhi. The French Charge D'affaires Raymond Petit and a technician were to stay here until February 6.

The departing group will be joined by Jean-Francois Leven, a French journalist who was shot and wounded by a Soviet soldier earlier on Friday, but whose condition is said to be satisfactory.

### 'Large Number' of Rebels in Kabul

*BK0602030589 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Excerpts] The pullout of the Soviet troops from Kabul is nearing completion, and a large number of Afghan mujahidin are reported to have entered the Afghan capital along with the refugees. The Soviet newspaper PRAVDA reported that the last Soviet soldier left Kabul yesterday. Other reports, however, indicate that some 500-1,000 Soviet troops are present in the Afghan capital to protect the Kabul airport. [passage omitted]

Afghan mujahidin leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar said they made arrangements for taking over Kabul from inside the city. Other mujahidin sources say that they have penetrated into the Kabul Armed Forces and the government.

### Casualties 'Heavy' in Clash Over Qandahar

*BK0402121489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1200 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 4 (AFP)—Casualties have been heavy in fierce fighting between rival Afghan militia units defending Qandahar, Afghanistan's second largest city, resistance sources said Saturday [4 February].

"Clashes were so heavy that even the provincial authorities could not intervene to end the bloodshed," the sources said.

More than a dozen soldiers died in the first encounter last Sunday [29 January], when government troops belonging to General Esmatullah Muslim's militia attacked the Jawzjani militia, which is under the direct command of Afghan President Najibullah, the sources said.

The city, already besieged by mujahidin rebels, is split into eastern and western sectors held by the rival militias, they said.

General Muslim, a former guerrilla leader who is considered a local warlord, commands several thousand troops of his Achakzai tribe, mostly in the Qandahar region.

Reports quoted by several sources said the provincial governor called Gen. Muslim to Qandahar from Kabul last week amid a rapidly deteriorating security situation in the wake of acute food shortages and serious complaints against the Jawzjani troops.

The local population had protested to the governor that the Jawzjani troops were "looting shops and indulging in other social and moral crimes," the rebel sources said.

The Jawzjani troops, assigned to control the city, also included soldiers from a special guards force Mr. Najibullah had raised to replace the withdrawing Soviet soldiers at strategic places.

The withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan is to be completed by February 15.

Fighting erupted again when Jawzjani troops launched an attack to retaliate for casualties in Sunday's attack. Several troops belonging to Gen. Muslim's militia died, the rebel sources said.

The city is now divided between the two groups. The western sector, which includes the governor's house and important government offices, offices of the KHAD secret police and military headquarters, is under the control of Jauzjani militia.

The eastern part, which includes a residential area as well as markets, is in the hands of Gen. Muslim's troops, the sources said.

"But even the KHAD people are not very happy with the Jawzjani militia and want them out of the region," a rebel source said.

The Jawzjanis' claim that they are answerable only to the president, and not the governor, has resulted in mounting tension and increased administrative problems in the city, which the guerrillas want to capture, the sources said.

## Armed Forces Combat Operations 2-3 Feb

*LD0302202889 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] An authoritative source in the country's armed forces has reported the following to BAKHTAR on the military situation in the country in the past 24 hours:

The units and companies of the armed forces were in full control of the situation. As a result of operations carried out by the units and companies of the armed forces, a large number of the extremists' light and heavy weapons were either destroyed or seized.

The Kabul-Hayratan and Kabul-Jalalabad highways were open to traffic and used continuously by motor vehicles belonging to the government and private sectors.

Here follow details of the operations carried out by the units and companies of the armed forces:

Parvan Province: As a result of search and mopping-up operations carried out by the special guard along the Salang highway, 10 boxes of ammunition for heavy machine-guns and three boxes of ammunition for ZK-1 were seized.

Nangarhar Province: Armed extremists fired heavy weapons on the residential regions and security posts of Dehbala, Rodat, and Sorkhrod Districts, which were answered by the armed forces' crushing blows foiling the futile efforts of the warmongers. One security man was injured as a result of this firing.

A number of extremists attempted to disrupt security along the Sarowbi-Jalalabad highway by firing heavy weapons at residential regions and other areas in this locality. The artillery force inflicted on them decisive and crushing blows as a result of which six of the extremists were crushed and another five of them were seriously injured. Two mortars, 1 DSHK, 20 rockets, 2 boxes of DSHK ammunition, and 4 strong hideouts of these warmongers were destroyed.

As a result of (?operations) carried out by the armed forces in Samar Kheyl and Behsud villages in Nangarhar Province, 9 men attached to Gulbuddin's band were killed and another 6 men, carrying 15 Kalashnikovs, were arrested.

Paktia Province: During the day the extremists mounted continuous heavy weapons fire on Khowst city, Tanay, Gorbaz, Lakan, Jaji Meydan, (Harunkhel), (Sanzel), and Towr Ghah regions, causing no losses.

Qandahar Province: As a result of aerial and artillery blows in answer to firing carried out by the extremists, 10 of the armed extremists were crushed in the surroundings of Daman District. One mortar and 14 Kalashnikovs of the enemy were destroyed.

As a result of a search carried by the armed forces in the Sayedan Regions, one box of hand-grenades and seven antivehicle mines were seized.

As a result of in-fighting between Gaylani's and Rabbani's men, which took place in the Lowy Manarah Regions of Arghandab District, one ringleader was crushed and another two men from the warring sides were seriously injured.

The situation was calm and normal in other provinces and regions of the country.

## Armed Operations 3-4 Feb

*LD0202223589 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] A reliable source in the Armed Forces reports the following on the military situation during the last 24 hours to the BIA military section:

The situation was normal in most of the provinces. In some regions, people formed new tribal units and companies to defend the people's power and not to allow the extremists to disrupt the security and tranquility in their regions.

As a result of continuous blows by the Armed Forces in order to foil the destructive activities of the extremists, a number of extremists were killed and a large number of heavy weapons and hideouts of the enemy were destroyed.

The details on the military situation in some provinces are as follows:

Nangarhar: The extremists fired heavy weapons at the districts of (Rodad), Kameh, and Chaprahar, which did not cause any losses of life or financial damage. As a result of the Armed Forces' activities in the western area of Sar Kand on Baba Ziarat region, 20 recoilless gun shells, 2 boxes of Kalashnikov shells, and a box of handgrenades were seized. As a result of crushing blows by the artillery forces, seven extremists were killed and three others were injured. Two recoilless guns and two enemy strongholds were destroyed.

According to another report the Kabul-Jalalabad highway is open to traffic.

Baghlan: In clashes which took place between the security forces and extremist elements in Baghlan city, two personnel of the security forces were slightly injured.

Laghman: As a result of armed clashes between members of so-called Hezb-e Islami and Harkat-e Eslami, three persons from both sides were killed in the village of (Kandagol), Alishing district, Laghman Province.

Paktia: Armed extremists fired at Nader Shah Kowt, subdistrict of Gorbaz, Jaji Meydan, [words indistinct], which were foiled by reciprocal blows by the Armed Forces. In these operations two security forces personnel were slightly injured.

Extremists also fired heavy weapons at residential areas in Pol-e Alam, which did not cause casualties or damage.

Qandahar: As a result of mopping up operations by units and companies of the Armed Forces in the south of Daman district, 3,000 Kalashnikov's shells, 21 handgrenades, 2 anti-vehicle mines, and 12 missles were seized by the Armed Forces. Some 27 strongholds, 9 trenches and their 2 DShK's were destroyed. During these operations a member of the security forces was injured.

Helmand: Extremists fired at the districts of Nad-e 'Ali and Navor and at the security posts, which caused no casualties.

Herat: During mopping up operations by the Armed Forces in the district of Pashtun Zarghun, 20 extremists were crushed, 3 gathering places, 2 ammunition depots, and 10 light weapons were destroyed.

Another report adds that recently a tribal battalion belonging to Mawlawi Ghowsuddin was formed in the district of Pashtun Zarghun, Herat Province, in order to ensure security and to foil the conspiracies of the destructive extremists.

### Clashes Reported 4-5 Feb

*LD0502204889 Kabul Domestic in Pashto*
*1530 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] According to reports from a reliable source in the Armed Forces, security is being enforced in most of the country's provinces. The units and companies of the Armed Forces have returned to their permanent bases. Supply convoys are arriving in Kabul via the Hayratan-Kabul and Jalalabad-Kabul highways. Clashes have taken place in some areas of the country as a result of destructive activities on the part of the opposition. As a result of Armed Forces counterattacks, a large quantity of arms and ammunition were destroyed or were seized from the extremists.

BAKHTAR's military section has issued the following report on the military situation in the last 24 hours:

Nangarhar: Extremists fired heavy weapons at residential areas of (Rohdad) and Deh Bala Districts, but there was no loss of life.

The Kabul-Jalalabad highway is open to the traffic. Vehicular traffic continues normally.

Kabul: The criminal groups fired heavy weapons at a number of the security posts in Sarowbi District, martyring one man, two women, three children, and two security personnel, and slightly damaging a number of houses.

Paktia: Extremists fired heavy weapons at Gardeyz city, Khowst city, (Tanay), (Zazi Madan), [words indistinct], as a result of which a member of the Armed Forces was martyred, two civilians were injured, and two houses were destroyed.

Qandahar: As a result of mopping up operations by the Armed Forces in area of Daman District, 3 boxes of Kalashnikovs and 1,100 rounds of DShK ammunition were seized, and 33 strongholds, 4 trenches, 1 mortar and 2 DShK's were destroyed. The extremists fired heavy weapons in the area of the airport, at residential areas, and at security posts, but there was no loss of life.

Herat: The criminal groups fired 20 rounds from heavy weapons into Herat city but did not cause any loss of life. According to another report, three inhabitants in the Shindand region were injured by extremist fire.

The military situation is normal in other regions and provinces of the country.

## Bangladesh

### President Ershad Swears in New State Minister

*BK0402140489 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali*
*1330 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Syed Deedar Bakht, parliament whip, was sworn in as the minister of state for information this morning. President Ershad administered the oath of office at a simple ceremony at his secretariat in Dhaka. Maulana Mufti Mohammad Wakkas has been appointed as the new parliamentary whip by the president.

## India

### French President Offers Nuclear Cooperation

*BK0302160689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] Addressing a news conference in Bombay after his arrival from Calcutta, Mr Mitterrand said his country is prepared to enter into a broad cooperation with India in regard to nuclear power projects. He said France is also ready to offer its expertise for the development of telecommunications and space program in India.

The French president said his discussions with Mr Rajiv Gandhi covered a wide-range of bilateral issues and topics of international importance, including disarmament and development. Mr Mitterrand praised India's continued progress in the development fields, particularly in attaining self-sufficiency in food grains. Mr Mitterrand also met a group of industrialists in Bombay this evening.

#### Departs 4 Feb

*BK0402075589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] The French president, Mr Mitterrand, was given a warm send off this morning, when he left Bombay for home after a 4-day visit to India. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi; the Maharashtra governor, Mr Brahmananda Reddy; the chief minister, Mr Sharad Pawar; several union ministers; and top officials saw him off. Before Mr Mitterrand's departure, the prime minister had a closed door meeting with him for about 20 minutes.

### Gandhi, PRC's Li Peng Exchange Letters

*BK0302155489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] The prime ministers of India and China have exchanged letters to follow up the bilateral and international issues discussed by them in December last in Beijing. An official spokesman said in New Delhi that this signifies the impetus being given to Sino-Indian relations. He said a series of exchange visits at various levels has been planned in a near future and exact dates are being worked out.

### Fence Said To Prevent Arms Flow From Pakistan

*BK0402080389 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] The adviser to the Punjab governor, Mr J.F. Ribeiro, has said that fencing on the Indo-Pak border has considerably reduced the flow of arms and checked the infiltration of terrorists from the neighboring country. However, some arms are trickling in through the unfenced border. Mr Ribeiro said terrorism in Punjab is being tackled on two fronts: one, by strong administrative action, and the other by mobilizing the people's active support. He ruled out the deployment of the army in the state.

### UK Policeman on Cooperation Against 'Terrorists'

*BK0402035289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Britain says it is framing a new legislation to investigate the flow of finance from militant-controlled gurdwaras [Sikh temples] there to terrorist outfits in Punjab. After visiting some troubled areas in Punjab, the police chief of West Midlands in Britain Mr (Geoffrey Dear) said he is convinced that there is no people support for the so-called Khalistan and people are fed up with terrorism.

Meanwhile, security forces arrested six hardcore terrorists following an encounter near Diyalgarh village in Gurdaspur District this morning. The encounter took place when a patrol party was fired upon during a routine check. Two terrorists managed to escape. A large quantity of arms and ammunition, including a (Thompson) submachine gun, some detonators, and big packets of explosives were recovered from the arrested terrorists. Elsewhere, terrorists shot dead a CPI-M activist in village Mahuwal of Jullundur District and a farmer in Beas area of Amritsar District.

### Police Arrest 7 'Terrorists' in Punjab Districts

*BK0602031589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] In Punjab, seven terrorists and two harborers have been arrested from different places of the state. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh today that three terrorists were arrested from Amritsar District, two from Bhatinda, and one each from Ludhiana and Gurdaspur Districts. The police also arrested two harborers from Ludhiana District.

Meanwhile, at least four terrorists forcibly entered a house in a village in Ferozepore District last night and shot dead four members of the family.

### Daughter of Former Punjab Leader Killed 5 Feb

*BK0502125089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] In Punjab, Mrs Rajender Kaur, former MP [member of parliament] and the daughter of the late Master Tara Singh, was shot dead by terrorists at Bhatinda this afternoon. She was attacked when she was returning from a local school after addressing a function. An advocate, Mr (Baldev Singh Khokar), who was accompanying Mrs Rajender Kaur, was also killed in the attack.

The union home minister, Mr Buta Singh, has strongly condemned the killing of Mrs Rajender Kaur. He said Mrs Rajender Kaur was a patriotic person like her father, late Master Tara Singh.

The president of Punjab Congress-I Committee, Mr Beant Singh, and the Akali Dal Longowal have also condemned the killing.

### Meerut Police Sources Say 8 Killed in Clashes

*BK0402034689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Eight persons were killed in a clash between two groups of a particular community at a village in Meerut District yesterday. Of the eight, one was killed in police firing.

According to police sources, 14 persons accused in a murder case were going toward Meerut in a tractor trolley when some people opened fire on them. Five miscreants were beaten to death by villagers, while two of the four injured in the clash later succumbed to injuries. When the police rushed to the spot and challenged the miscreants, one was killed in police firing. A Sten gun and a large quantity of ammunition were recovered from the spot.

### Curfew Imposed in West Bengal Following Violence

*BK0402160489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] In West Bengal, indefinite curfew was clamped today in parts of (Patiapur) and Santoshpur of South 24 Pargana District following group clashes. The chief secretary of the state told newsmen that earlier in the day police opened fire to disperse a violent mob. Additional police force has been deployed to maintain law and order in the area.

### Minister Views Efforts To Solve Naga Insurgency

*BK0402090689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] The Nagaland chief minister, Mr S.C. Jamir, has said that his government will make renewed efforts to solve the insurgency problem in the state. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi, Mr Jamir said with the change on the international scene and a breakthrough in the India-China relations after Mr Gandhi's visit to China, the climate is favorable for dealing with the underground elements.

The chief minister said he will soon have talks with the Assam chief minister to find an amicable solution to the boundary dispute in a spirit of accommodation. He said his ministry will be expanded after the budget session, which begins in Kohima on the 14th of this month. He, however, did not specify the number of ministers to be inducted. Talking about other priorities, the chief minister said his government will strive to bring about a new social, economic, and political order based on justice and fairness to all sections.

### V.P. Singh Denies Janata Party Charges

*BK0402155789 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Feb*

[Text] The Janata Dal president, Mr V.P. Singh, has refuted the charge that he had ever ordered an enquiry as finance minister into the alleged foreign bank accounts of some opposition leaders. In a statement in New Delhi today, Mr Singh described the allegations made by the Janata Party leader, Dr Subramaniam Swamy, as misleading.

Dr Swamy, however, reiterated the charge today and said he had given precise information about Mr Singh's enquiry to the Janata Dal leader, Mr Chandrashekhar. Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi, he said investigations to this effect against 16 opposition leaders were undertaken by the American agency, Fairfax, at the instance of the union Finance Ministry then headed by Mr V.P. Singh.

### TV Relay Stations Commissioned in Gujarat

*BK0402063989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Two more low power TV relay centers are being commissioned in Gujarat today. With this, the number of such centers in the state will go up to 15. The new centers at Porbandar and Junagarh will be inaugurated by the minister for information and broadcasting, Mr H.K.L. Bhagat.

### TV Transmitter Inaugurated in Uttar Pradesh

*BK0502130589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Excerpt] In Uttar Pradesh, a low power TV transmitter was inaugurated at Hardoi today. It is expected to provide services within a range of 25 kilometers. It will relay programs from New Delhi by the INSAT-1B. [passage omitted]

## Iran

### President Khamene'i on U.S. 'Hostile Attitude'

*LD0502113189 Tehran IRNA in English 1100 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i today reiterated that Tehran-Washington relations would not be restored as long as the U.S. continued its hostile attitude towards the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In an apparent reference to remarks made by the new American President George Bush saying that Iran was not behind the hostage-taking in Lebanon, Khamene'i said that "the green signal is not enough alone. The U.S. should show its good intentions in practice."

Speaking to a group of 70 foreign and domestic newsmen here, the president said Washington could show its goodwill towards Tehran by releasing Iran's frozen assets in the U.S. and by giving up its hostile and mischievious stance against Iran.

He dismissed recent Western reports on alleged human rights abuses in Iran as "biased and fabricated," and called on all fair-minded and just people in the world to treat such rumors spread by Iran's enemies with caution and realism.

Elsewhere in his speech, Khamene'i rejected the idea of borrowing from abroad by Iran, saying "no Iranian official approves of foreign loans or any other economic methods which might make the country dependent on other countries." But he added that Iran was not against economic cooperation with other countries on the basis of mutual interest.

President Khamene'i stressed that Iran was interested in strengthening relations with all countries in the world except the Israel and apartheid regime in South Africa. Furthermore, he said there were presently no ties with Washington due to America's "conspiratory hostility" against Iran.

On Afghanistan, he said that country's future was on a clear path due to the brave struggle of the Afghan nation. "A popular Islamic government will administer this country," Khamene'i added.

Commenting on the issue of hajj (pilgrimage), the Iranian president said "we have always wanted and insisted on performing the hajj. We will fulfil this religious task as long as there are no obstacles in our way."

Referring to the Iran-Iraq peace talks in his press conference, Khamene'i said the prospects of the negotiations would not be promising as long as the Baghdad regime maintains its illogical and dubious stance.

"We will do all within our power to secure the continuation of the talks and the implementation of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598, but we will not tolerate illogical positions or the presence of enemy troops on our territory," he said.

Once again pointing to Western media reports on alleged human rights violations in Iran, the Iranian president noted that "those organisations which claim to adhere to human rights have kept mum on repeated human rights abuses by Iran's enemies and aggressions by world powers against the Islamic Republic."

He cited the downing of an Iranian passenger airliner by the the U.S. Navy over the Persian Gulf last July killing 290 passengers and crew members as an example of superpower aggression against Iran.

"Human rights in Iran are based on Islam which guarantees the rights of each and every individual and citizen," Khamene'i underlined.

The president denied the existence of a council in charge for improving Iran's Constitution, but said "some people favour the improvement of the Constitution while others consider it perfect."

Khamene'i said if improvements in the Constitution were deemed necessary it should be approved by the Iranian nation in a referendum.

The president said he was optimistic on the future of Lebanon and expressed his conviction that the Muslim majority population "can change the unjust system of government ruling their country."

On the recent agreement reached by the Amal movement, Hizballah, Iran and Syria to stop inter-Shi'ite clashes in Lebanon, Khamene'i terming the fact as "inadequate" pointed out to the need to take other measures to uproot the cause of the conflict.

"We in cooperation with our brothers-in-faith in Syria, Amal movement and Hizballah will eradicate the cause of the conflict," Khamene'i said.

Asked whether Iran had declared a general amnesty for Iranians residing abroad, the president replied "I think Iranians abroad do not need to be pardoned since most of them have not committed any offence."

"Minor offences, except for major crimes and efforts to topple the Islamic Republic, will be ignored and those who have not committed such crimes will have no difficulty in returning home," the president said.

On Tehran-Tokyo ties, Khamene'i said there have always been "friendly" politico-economic ties between Iran and Japan during and after the Iraqi-imposed war. He also expressed hope that mutual ties would further expand in the future.

The issue of joint Iran-Japan petrochemical projects at the southern port city of Imam Khomeyni would not adversely affect mutual ties, Khamene'i said.

The Japanese partner to the agreement Mitsui Company has refused to complete the petrochemical complex because of economical reasons.

### Urges Change in U.S. Policy

*LD0502130589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] In an interview with domestic and foreign correspondents today, President Khamene'i said Islamic Iran has endured 10 years of resistance and struggle for the sake of sacred Islamic goals. During those years world arrogant powers and their agents have used various methods—such as imposing the war, an economic blockade, accusations of violations of human rights, and other conspiracies—to inflict blows on our country.

He added: Resistance and struggle by the Iranian nation foiled all those plots. After having foiled many arrogant plots, we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Islamic revolution.

He said: The country's reconstruction, economic growth and expansion, and cultural issues are among the government's major programs and are given priority. Certain plans have been made in this regard. He added: In reconstruction emphasis is on technical and natural resources and domestic manpower. If needed, the technical know-how of other countries will be used.

Regarding the Afghanistan issue, he said: We believe that Afghanistan's fate must be determined by that country's Muslim people and mujahidin. The Islamic Republic of Iran supports and protects the struggles of the Muslim people of Afghanistan, Muslims in Palestine, and in other parts of the world. He added: We believe in the establishment of an independent government chosen by the majority in Lebanon. We consider the clashes in Lebanon to benefit only the Zionist regime.

Concerning the Islamic Republic's foreign policy, he said: We believe in establishing friendly relations with all countries, except the regime occupying Jerusalem and the racist regime of South Africa. We believe that every aspect of our relations with other countries should be expanded.

Asked about the recent U.S. desire to establish ties with Iran, he said:

[Begin Khamene'i recording] The change in president is ineffective so long as it does not entail a change in policy. The new U.S. secretary of state announced that he will pursue his predecessors' foreign policy. What forces us to adopt our present position against the United States is its hostile and extremely conspiratorial attitude toward the Islamic Republic and the revolution since the victory of the revolution. A change in this hostile and hegemonistic policy would no doubt change that position. If a change in presidents could have any effect in the matter, it would of course be beneficial. So far, however, we have seen no signs of this change. [end recording]

### Majlis Speaker Delivers Friday Prayers Sermons

*LD0302191989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1527 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Friday prayers sermons delivered by Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani at Tehran University on 3 February—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. My second sermon today is concise yet comprehensive. It concerns the revolution. I intend to speak about the achievements of the revolution during its 10 years. We are now on the threshold of the 11th year of our revolution. It has been 10 years since we delivered this country from the demonic agent of Western arrogance. These 10 years have been extraordinary; the nation has experienced an era which has been fruitful, constructive, educational, and which has provided the country with a foundation and structure for implementating various activities and services. [passage omitted]

The Marxists, in their assimilation, regarded religion as the opium of the masses and could not envisage a nation taking over the reins of government through religious ideology, let alone managing it. Western capitalism has for some time now believed that it has separated religion from society, transferring it to the hearts of the people. In its effort to be religious it describes religion as a personal affinity betwen the individual and his God, devoid of a role in the management of society. [passage omitted]

There is also an intermediate stratum, consisting of intellectuals and liberals, who possess neither the debaucheries of capitalists nor the grave deviation of the Marxists, nor the reactionary state of those reactionaries who constitute the so-called pseudo-intellectuals and revivalists, who have placed themselves in the guise of the liberals, and who exist in multitudes in the Islamic societies; they also could not bear the rule of religion. They want to taint religion with Western gloss and give it their so-called progressive brand. In their words, they desire religion without clericalism. As for the reactionaries, Zionists and the like, it is obvious they are against religion, for thousands of reasons. [passage omitted]

All these counterrevolutionary forces have gone, but the doubts harbored by the East and the West still remain. They have not given up efforts aimed at quashing what they view as a transitory wave, which they hope to replace. [passage omitted] They resorted to staging coups d'etat but failed. They resorted to propaganda as a means of bringing the liberals to power but failed. They resorted to waging blind armed clashes using children who were deluded by leftist slogans of their affiliated groups as their tools, ruining the children, and creating hardships for themselves. They even resorted to using drug dealers, outlaws, hoarders, and perverts. But they failed again.

In line with all these, they also resorted to issuing economic embargoes and waging this extraordinary and lengthy war. All these moves, however, produced adverse results. They imagined that the war was their weapon with which they could annihilate the revolution. [passage omitted] As a last resort, the counterrevolutionaries gave a number of aircraft carriers, the most advanced missile launching vessels, and illegal chemical weapons to the Ba'thist regime in Iraq, as well as using all their other capabilities, even at the cost of drowning their friends by manipulating the price of oil and other means peculiar to their arrogant behavior. All this was done in order to harness the revolution. [passage omitted]

Ten years have passed. We have not yet reached the lofty goals we set at the beginning of the revolution regarding the country's reconstruction. The reason for that is the war, the economic blockade, counterrevolution, rebellion, and sabotage by agents of world blasphemy, who still exist deeply rooted in our country's economic structure in the form of capitalist puppets.

However, we have achieved a goal which has insured the existence of the revolution and the country. After 10 years we have made our enemies despondent. Today, the correspondents who have come to Iran for the 10 Days of Dawn, and those who came after Iran's acceptance of the resolution and counterrevolution propaganda, and who thought that there was chaos in Iran, are sending reports to their governments that Iran's revolution is established; the revolution has made its mark; the people are satisfied with and loyal to the revolution. A large majority of the Iranian people are behind their leader, but they have economic problems. [passage omitted]

Serious measures have been taken and there has been some reconstruction. But if there had been no war, no blockade, and if we had not wanted to utilize the country's manpower for such tasks, no doubt more progress would have been made. In any case we have lived like this for 10 years. Today, in the 10 Days of Dawn, in the 10th year of the victory of the revolution, we must enter a new stage—if the war ends. If it does not end, one can not foresee the future. There is a possibility of the war continuing. Of course, the enemy did not benefit from this war; it incurred losses. However, we still cannot say that our enemies would rest easy because of the grudge and anger they feel for Islam, and their fear of revolutionary Islam. However, there is a possibility that they may not pursue the war because of their bitter experience. We are not belligerent either. If the war continues, that is another matter. But if it ends we will follow another plan.

We should name the last decade the decade of the establishment of the revolution, and the next decade as the decade of reconstruction and economic independence. At present, we are still economically dependent in certain areas. We still have factories that would not work if they did not receive materials from abroad. We still have machinery dependent on other countries. We still have to import some food from the outside world. [passage omitted]

## USSR's Vorontsov Arrives To Discuss Afghanistan

*LD0402110289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Yuliy Vorontsov, first Soviet deputy foreign minister, announced on his arrival in Tehran today: All the Soviet forces will leave Afghan soil within 4 days.

Our correspondent Ja'fari reports: Yuliy Vorontsov, the Soviet deputy foreign minister and ambassador to Kabul, arrived in Tehran at the head of a diplomatic delegation today. He was welcomed by Larijani, the European-American affairs undersecretary at the Foreign Ministry.

In an interview with reporters, Mr Vorontsov stated that the aim of his trip was to meet Islamic Republic officials and discuss the Afghan situation. He said: As promised, the Soviet Union is evacuating its troops from Afghanistan. Within 4 days no Soviet military forces will remain in Afghanistan. He said: At this juncture it is necessary to hold talks about the peaceful (?reconstruction) of Afghanistan. Of course, the future of Afghanistan concerns the Afghans themselves, and no one except the people of that country has the right to interfere.

He added: The Islamic Republic of Iran, the (?USSR), Pakistan, and (?China) are Afghanistan's neighbors. We must strive to bring peace to that country. We must see how we can help the people of Afghanistan.

## Says Coup Rumors 'Baseless'

*LD0401114589 Tehran IRNA in English 1139 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, IRNA—Soviet first Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov arrived here Saturday heading a five-man delegation to discuss the Afghanistan issue with Iranian officials and Afghan resistance leaders.

He was welcomed at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport by Mohammad Javad Larijani deputy foreign minister for Europe and America.

"Soviet forces are due to leave Afghan territory within four days and therefore it is necessary that its neighbours exchange views on the future of Afghanistan" Vorontsov told reporters. Officially Moscow has given a commitment to withdraw their troops by February 15.

The Soviet official is due to hold talks with the eight-party coalition of Afghan mujahidin based in Iran as well as the leader of the Pakistan-based seven-party alliance Sebghatullah Mojaddedi who is currently in Tehran.

Early last month Vorontsov held talks with Afghan mujahidin factions in Tehran and Islamabad which ended without any tangible results on the future of Afghanistan which the mujahidin insist must be without the current Marxist regime in Kabul.

Vorontsov denied rumors on the possibility of a military coup by Afghan Army hardliners after the Soviet withdrawal.

"There are numerous rumors about Afghanistan but there is no such possibility and it is thoroughly baseless," he said.

### Meets With Velayati

*LD0402172989 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Mr Vorontsov, the Soviet first deputy foreign minister, in a meeting with Foreign Minister Velayati expressed his congratulations this evening on the anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution, and informed him of Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit, which is to take place in the near future. He said: The Soviet forces will pull out of Afghanistan in the next few days.

At this meeting, Mr Velayati remarked on his recent visit to Pakistan during which he held meetings with the country's leaders, as well as the Afghan mujahidin leaders. He said: We believe that no country has the right to interfere in the affairs of Afghanistan. Mr Velayati stressed: We welcome the withdrawal of the Soviet troops, which are leaving Afghanistan before the appointed time. He also assessed the Soviet foreign minister's coming visit to Iran as beneficial.

### Holds Talks With Larijani

*LD0502175789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Mr Yuliy Vorontsov, the first deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union and that country's ambassador to Afghanistan, who is on an official visit in Tehran, held his first round of talks with Mr Larijani, the Euro-American affairs deputy of the Foreign Ministry. In the course of this meeting, the two sides exchanged views on ways of moving toward a political solution for Afghanistan and stressed the need for the peaceful transfer of political power and the prevention of massacres and bloodshed after the complete withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan. The two sides referred to the common views and the existing attitude of cooperation between Iran and the USSR, as the two neighbors of Afghanistan, as an important factor in the regional cooperation.

### Claims Soviets Out of Kabul

*LD0602082889 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 6, IRNA—A senior Soviet official said here today that Moscow has pulled out all its forces from Kabul and that "we are determined to withdraw all our troops from Afghanistan even before the scheduled date (Feb 15)."

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov made the remarks in a meeting with President 'Ali Khamene'i today.

Vorontsov arrived here Saturday for talks with Iranian officials and Afghan mujahidin leaders on the issue of Afghanistan.

The Soviet official stressed that the future of Afghanistan must be decided by its own people and that he could now see "the prospect for a peaceful life" in that country.

The Iranian president in response lauded the early Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan as a "judicious move." He also underline the role of the Afghan mujahidin in all Afghan-related talks.

Vorontsov, who also serves as Soviet ambassador to Kabul, said the aim of his country's officials was to "find suitable ways to achieve real peace in Afghanistan."

"We hope all neighbors of Afghanistan would help in providing a healthy future for the people of that country," he added.

He also called for continued consultations between officials of the Soviet Union and the Islamic Republic of Iran to solve the Afghan problem.

In response, President Khamene'i also stressed the need for Afghanistan's neighbors to "sincerely cooperate in building a bright and independent future for that country."

"The issue of Afghanistan is the problem of this region and all those interested in the destiny and internal security of Afghanistan must help to fulfil that cause," Khamene'i stressed.

He added that the people of Afghanistan were very sensitive now, due to the long presence of foreigners in their country and "therefore, we believe any talks on Afghanistan must be away from intervention in the country's internal affairs because only its people and the mujahidin would decide the fate of the country as its real representatives."

The meeting was also attended by Mohammad Javad Larijani, deputy foreign minister for Euro-American affairs, and the Soviet Ambassador to Tehran Vladimir Gudev.

Soviet first deputy foreign minister conveyed to President Khamene'i "the warm greetings" of the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and congratulated him on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution.

"Your revolution was a great revolution and the victory of the Iranian people too was a great victory," he told Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i.

### Expresses 'Satisfaction'

*LD0602110489 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 6, IRNA—The Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov departed here after two days of talks with Iranian officials and Afghan mujahidin leaders on the issue of Afghanistan.

In an interview before departure, Vorontsov expressed satisfaction with the result of his talks with President 'Ali Khamene'i, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Deputy Foreign Minister for Euro-American Affairs Mohammad Javad Larijani, as well as leaders of Tehran and Islamabad based Afghan Islamic resistance groups.

Vorontsov who led a five-man delegation to Tehran, said the most imnportant objective of his visit was "peace for Afghanistan through employing joint efforts." These efforts, he said, are aimed at formation of a coalition government in Afghanistan through peaceful means.

The Soviet official added that his country and Iran shared similar stances on the Afghan issue. "Both the countries underline the need for establishing peace in that country."

He further believed that the internal issues of Afghanistan would be resolved by its people and "therefore, no intervention must be made in this regard."

He said Soviet troops have already evacuated Kabul and its surrounding areas and are gradually withdrawing from northern parts of Afghanistan.

Vorontsov expressed hopes Afghanistan would turn to a "fully independent, non-aligned and democratic country with participation of all political forces" after Soviet troop pull-out from that country is completed by mid-February.

On his talks with Afghan mujahidin leaders here, Vorontsov said they want two things, first, a full withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and secondly a change in the present communist rule. He said the two conditions were attainable through peaceful means.

He said in view of the fact that Soviet troops are pulling out from Afghanistan in a week's time "I can say the necessary conditions for a new government will be provided."

On a report by TASS news agency last night that martial law has been imposed in Kabul, the Soviet official said the Afghan capital was "presently under military threat" and that the martial law would be lifted as soon as the threat is removed.

He said he would discuss the result of his visit to Pakistan and Iran with the Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Moscow. He also said the arrangement have been made for the Soviet Foreign minister's visit to Tehran and that the two sides are in touch for necessary coordinations.

### Afghan Mujahidin Official Talks With Leaders

*LD0402144789 Tehran IRNA in English 1451 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, IRNA—Head of the Peshawar-based seven-party Afghan alliance Sebghatullah Mojaddedi briefed President 'Ali Khamene'i on the latest developments in Afghanistan. During the meeting held here today, President Khamene'i gave necessary guidelines.

Meanwhile, Foreign Miniser 'Ali Akbar Velayati stressed Iran's support for a popular government in Afghanistan, in a meeting with Mojaddedi here on the same day.

Over the past months members of the alliance have paid several visits to Iran to exchange views with Iranian officials and the eight-group Afghan coalition here. Mojaddadi accompanied Velayati to Iran after the conclusion of the latter's visit to that country.

Soviet forces are to complete the troops withdrawal by February 15. In the meantime Soviet First Deputy Foeign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov also arrived here today to follow up talks on Afghanistan.

### French Foreign Minister Dumas Arrives in Tehran

*LD0502060989 Tehran IRNA in English 0605 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. IRNA—French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas arrived here this morning on a two-day official visit at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Speaking to reporters at Tehran's International Airport, the two foreign ministers expressed hope the trip would produce positive results in improving Tehran-Paris ties.

Regional and international developments, Iraq-Iran peace talks and Tehran-Paris ties are among subjects to be discussed during Dumas' meetings with senior Iranian officials. Dumas is accompanied by a 60-man political, economic and press delegation.

The French minister will hold two rounds of talks with Velayati and meet with President 'Ali Khamene'i, Majlis speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi.

### Interviewed on Relations

*LD0502101789 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA—French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas has spoken of an "ascending phase" and "progress" in Tehran-Paris ties and expressed his wish of expanding cooperation between the two countries in various sectors, after years of turbulent relations.

In an interview with the English-Language TEHRAN TIMES in Paris Dumas said "Franco-Iranian relations are today in an ascending phase. Since our diplomatic relations were resumed in July, constant progress has been recorded in every sphere."

Roland Dumas arrived in the Iranian capital Sunday morning for a two-day visit, the first by a French foreign minister since the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran ten years ago.

French-Iranian diplomatic relations were at the level of charge d'affaires since 1979 till a breakdown in ties in June 1987 over a diplomatic row. Relations were resumed at the ambassadorial level in July 1988.

Dumas said he would discuss the issue of France's outstanding debt repayment to Iran with the Iranian Government during talks here.

Hwe described the debt issue as a "highly complex problem," and added that there were "divergences between the respective evaluation of the sums involved."

In 1974 the deposed reigme of the shah had granted a one-billion dollar loan to the Atomic Energy Commissary of France which, Iran says has swelled to two billion dollars due to interest rates on the principal amount. Paris has repaid 330 million dollars as part of its outstanding debt to Iran.

The French foreign minister said he was expecting from Iranian authorities "their option", their priorities and the kinds of cooperation they would like to establish with their Western partners," and expressed France's readiness to help in Iran's reconstruction phase after the 8-year Iraqi-imposed war.

### Holds Talks With Velayati

*LD0502112289 Tehran IRNA in English 1044 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today said Iraq was "from the very beginning reluctant to have the Security Council Resolution 598 implemented," otherwise, he stressed, it would have started troop withdrawal. He again accused the Baghdad regime of blocking the progress of talks with his French counterpart Roland Dumas who arrived here this morning. Velayati also said "the Islamic Republic of Iran is for stability and peace" in the region and "for this reason, our relations with the Persian Gulf states are improving."

Dumas said "failure to implement the U.N. peace plan would not be in the interest of anyone and would instead create instability in the region."

"We support the efforts of the U.N. secretary general and his four-point plan," said the French foreign minister.

U.N. efforts to convince Baghdad to withdraw its troops from over 1,000 sq. kms of Iranian territory, as demanded in the Resolution 598, have failed so far. Iraq has set two conditions which it says must be met before a troop pull-out: dredging of the Arvand River and free navigation in the Persian Gulf.

But in the U.N. resolution which Iraq has officially accepted, there is no mention of these issues though Iran says they could be discussed in later stages after a troop withdrawal to international boundaries and full exchange of prisoners.

Since August 25 last year, that is five days after Iran accepted the resolution, three rounds of peace talks have been held but none have produced substantial progess towards a lasting peace in the region.

On the Afghan crisis, Velayati said the situation in that country had reached a "sensitive point" and "our efforts are aimed at formation of a government accepted by the Muslim people of Afghanistan." He also underlined the role of the seven and eight party alliances of the Afghan mujahidin in this respect.

Dumas voiced his country's support for the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan which Moscow says will be completed in a week. He also believed that the people of Lebanon must form their own government.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Velayati regretted the "political turmoil in Lebanon and said "we would like a government to come to power there accepted by the majority of the Lebanese people." The French foreign minister also agreed that the government in Lebanon must be decided by its own people. He further lauded the Islamic Republic of Iran's efforts towards restoration of peace in the war-torn country.

In conclusion of the meeting, the two sides decided to discuss more topics in the next round of the talks Monday.

### Comments on Visit

*LD0502115989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas arrived in Tehran this morning at the head of a 60-man high ranking politico-economic delegation at the invitation of Foreign Minister Velayati. French Foreign Minister Dumas was met by the foreign minister and a few officials from that ministry. According to a Central News Unit report, in an interview with the reporters upon his arrival, the French foreign minister expressed his satisfaction with his visit to Iran and hoped that his talks with the Islamic Republic of Iran's officials will lead to the expansion of mutual ties in various fields. He said that this visit could play an effective role in improving the relations between the two countries.

Dumas did not reject the probability of a visit by French President Mitterrand.

Foreign Minister Velayati, in an interview with our correspondent Ahmadzadeh, remarked on Dumas' visit to Iran.

[Begin recording] [Velayati] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The esteemed French Foreign Minister Dumas has come to Tehran at the invitation of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the first official visit by the French foreign minister since the Islamic Revolution. First of all, the issue of mutual ties between Iran and France and a comprehensive review of these ties, as well as efforts by bothe sides to bolster these ties, will be discussed. Naturally, regional and international issues will be topics of discussion. The Iranian side will undoubtedly inform the French side about Resolution 598 and its present status. In return, France, as a permanent member of the UN Security Council, will give us its opinion on this matter, which could be of benefit to us.

[Ahmadzadeh] In your opinion what role will the French foreign minister's visit to Iran play in future relations between the two countries?

[Velayati] In principle, the political visits made by the responsible and decisionmaking ranks will improve relations, and we hope that the two countries' ties will expand on the basis of mutual respect and equal rights in the future. [end recording]

### Received by President Khamene'i

*LD0502171589 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Mr Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, arrived in Tehran this morning at the head of a high-ranking politico-economic delegation. He was welcomed by Mr Velayati, the foreign minister. President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i received Mr Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, this evening. During the meeting, the French foreign minister referred to the very pleasant memory of the French people in connection with His Eminence Imam Khomeyni's historic trip to Paris in 1978-79. He said: I have come to Tehran in hopes of establishing relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran at a desirable level. I hope that we will be able to make up for lost time as is befitting, in terms of culture, history, and the dignity of the two nations.

Stressing the common features between the two nations and the joint interests of Iran and France, the French foreign minister expressed a desire to expand ties and mutual cooperation on the basis of the two countries' interests.

Then the president stated that the establishment of good and strong relations between the two countries was a possibility, bearing in mind their historical roots. Stressing the deep, popular roots of the Islamic revolution of Iran, he said: Our people expect all nations and governments to understand their profound movement and their just position.

Referring to the fact that today Iran is rebuilding following the ruinous war and the disorders inherited from the previous regime, the president added: Undoubtedly, France can play an important role during this stage, and we welcome the expansion of mutual cooperation in technical, industrial, commercial, cultural, political, and economic fields. That requires sincere and serious efforts by both sides. Of course, the main precondition for any kind of effort in that connection is the establishment of an atmosphere of mutual trust.

### Urges Expansion of Ties

*LD0502171789 Tehran IRNA in English 1644 GMT 5 Feb 89*

["France Ready To Compensate for Past Mistakes, Dumas Tells Khamene'i—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA—In his meeting with President 'Ali Khamene'i today, French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas said he was in Iran with the hopes of establishing ties at "a desirable level."

Dumas whose country was the principal backer of the Iraqi regime during eight years of aggression on Iran, said the two countries could compensate for "past misunderstandings" with due respect to their distinct culture, history and traditions. He called for expansion of Tehran-Paris ties and cooperation.

President Khamene'i replied that "good and strong" ties between the two countries is possible in the light of historical links. "The Islamic Republic pursues logical political ties with world countries with reason, but the (Iraqi) imposed war created some sour feelings," said the president.

Elsewhere, he said Iran is now free to reconstruct the ruins "both war devastated and those inherited from the former regime. France can play a significant role in this respect and we welcome expansion of mutual ties in technical, industrial, commercial, cultural, political and economic fields."

"But this needs sincere and serious efforts although any effort in this area requires an atmosphere of mutual trust," Khamene'i said.

Dumas heading a politico-economic delegation arrived here today as the first senior French official who visits Tehran after the victory of the Islamic revolution in 1979.

### Confers With Hashemi-Rafsanjani

*LD0502210289 Tehran IRNA in English 1718 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA—French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas told Majlis (parliament) speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani today that Iran and France could expand mutual ties "now that obstacles in the way have been removed."

Dumas also pledged France's support for the U.N. chief's efforts to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

Rafsanjani said Tehran-Paris ties could progress on the basis of mutual interests and in the interest of the region and Western countries. "The Paris government's adoption of just stands at international forums could be effective in furthering bilateral ties," he added.

Among other topics discussed by the two were exchange of parliamentary delegations and holding of a joint economic commission to solve financial disputes between the two countries.

The former regime had granted a dlr one billion loan to the French Atomic Commissary [as received] in 1974, which Iran says has swelled to 2 billion dollars due to interest on the principal amount.

Paris which so far has repaid 630 million dollars, was one of the chief backers of the Iraqi regime during the eight year aggression on the Islamic Republic. Roland Dumas arrived today heading a high-powered delegation, and is the first French foreign minister to visit Iran following the victory of the Islamic revolution in 1979.

### Meets With Musavi, Nabavi

*LD0602104489 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Rasht, Gilan Prov., Feb. 6, IRNA—Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi currently touring the province, said here Monday that the future of the Tehran-Paris ties depended on sincerity of the French Government.

Premier Musavi who had a meeting with the French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas who arrived here on a two-day official visit Sunday, added "on Iran-France relations we have said what is necessary."

The French minister in the second day of his visit, held talks with Iran's Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi in Tehran Monday morning in which he expressed France's desire for expansion of bilateral economic relations and participation in post-war reconstruction of Iran.

Outlining Iran's policies for industrial-economic cooperation, Nabavi said that mutual interests, boosting of Iranian non-oil exports and major joint industrial projects are the determining factors.

Both sides also discussed cooperation for building of power plants, manufacturing of wagon and locomotives and Tehran metro system. Details of the discussions have not been released. The meeting was attended by the representatives of the two French car manufacturing companies, Peugeot and Renault.

The Iranian automobile manufacturing firm, 'Iran Khodrow' last month concluded an agreement with France's Peugeot Company for production of Peugeot 504 motors and 405 automobiles in Iran. Peugeot and Renault repesentatives expressed their readiness for cooperation with Iran-Khodrow and Saipa (manufacturer of Renault cars in Iran) until complete execution of their agreements with Iran.

Dumas invited Nabavi to visit Paris to further discuss ways of expanding Tehran-Paris industrial relations.

### Holds Second Round of Talks

*LD0602113189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] The second round of talks between the Iranian and French foreign ministers was held at the Foreign Ministry this morning. In the course of these talks, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, the French foreign minister reviewed the political, economic, and cultural talks and described them as positive. He also expressed satisfaction with his visit.

Roland Dumas stressed the need for the expansion of cooperation between the two countries in connection with the regional and international issues and also called for the establishment of bilateral cooperation in scientific and medical fields. He also extended an invitation to Velayati to visit France.

Velayati described Dumas' visit as positive and reaffirmed that such cooperation and contacts between the two countries in regional and international issues should continue.

### Commentary Views Ties

*LD0502131389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1058 GMT 5 Feb 89*

["Political Commentary"]

[Text] In response to an invitation issued earlier, French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas arrived in Tehran this morning at the head of a delegation. The visit by the French foreign minister as the first official visit of a high-ranking French official to Iran after the victory of the Islamic revolution is regarded as important, particularly in view of the record of unfriendly relations between Tehran and Paris during that period.

Despite the existence of normal relations between the two countries before the start of the imposed war, relations between Tehran and Paris became difficult and tense after the start of the Iran-Iraq war due to France's unfriendly position toward the Islamic Republic and her limitless support for Iraq. France was the second largest provider of weapons and military equipment to Iraq and, at the same time, the biggest financial and political supporter of Baghdad throughout the war.

The unprecedented and strange lending of Super Etendard aircraft to Iraq and the dispatch of advanced military equipment, all of which played an important role in maintaining Iraq's war machine, not only led to protests from Tehran, but to the continuation of the war and the spread of insecurity and threats to the stability of the region. Not only was the French equipment used by Iraq for the launching and continuation of the tanker war in the Persian Gulf, they were even used for launching attacks deep inside Iranian territory. In addition to financial and military support for Iraq, the French Government's silence regarding the extensive use of chemical weapons and refraining from open condemnation of the Iraqi regime cannot be regarded as anything but Paris' political support for Baghdad.

In any case, the French Government's past behavior, especially in the course of the imposed war, cannot be regarded as positive by Iranian public opinion. Paris' unjust and utilitarian support for Baghdad will remain for a long time in the memory of our nation.

At present, although the war has not completely ended, a cease-fire is in force. In view of the present situation and the discussions which are continuing under UN supervision for the final implementation of Resolution 598, France must review her past policies and work to strengthen peace and security in the region. Although France's support for Resolution 598 and the efforts of the UN secretary general for implementing it is regarded as positive, nevertheless, this support cannot be very effective without practical steps. In view of the influence which she has on Iraq, France can play an effective role in the complete implementation of the resolution by Baghdad.

At the same time, regardless of the issues which have cast a shadow upon the expansion of bilateral relations, the French minister's visit provides an opportunity for an exchange of opinion and for a more tangible clarification of existing uncertainties.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly stressed the need for the existence of equitable relations based on the common interests of both sides and has proved her sincerity by moving within this framework. After the resumption of relations with France and the solution of some of the existing financial differences—which led to repayment of a part of the debts of the French Government to Iran—the relations between the two countries have made tangible progress. In view of the post-war reconstruction, France's participation in the reconstruction plans can be realized by removing some of the existing uncertainties in the bilateral relations.

### Khamene'i Comments on 'Ulema, Revolution Links

*LD0402071989 Tehran IRNA in English 0715 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Friday evening that the 'ulema and the revolution are closely intertwined because Islam is what that inspired the revolution. Therefore, Islam would make no sense without the presence of the 'ulema.

The president was addressing a special ceremony held at Tehran's Ershad Mosque by the Tehran Society of Militant 'Ulema on the third day of the 10-day dawn marking the 10th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. The ceremony was attended by a large number of civil and military officials of the country.

More on the role of 'ulema in Iranian history, the president said the main power behind the revolution was the prestige of the 'ulema gained through years of Iranian history.

The president added that materialization of all goals of the revolution calls for continued presence of the 'ulema in political life. Failure to realize this will damage the revolution.

He further told the audience that the Islamic Republic is a great spiritual asset to the world. It could shatter domination of materialistic outlooks and attract people to Islam. He concluded that such tendencies have proven their bankruptcy and Islam could win hearts and minds of people.

### Hashemi-Rafsanjani Interviewed on Revolution, War

*NC0402103689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0540 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and acting minister in chief of the Armed Forces, by unidentified correspondent of the "Voice of the Front" feature; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Greetings and salutations to you dear listeners, especially the honorable guardians of the borders of Islamic Iran, on the occasion of the auspicious days of the Islamic Republic celebrations. We had the opportunity to meet Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the esteemed speaker of the Islamic Majlis and the acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, we are extremely grateful to you for sparing some moments of your time. Could you please inform us about your assessment of the country's military and defensive strength a decade after the victory of the Islamic revolution?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We learned many things after passing through 8 years of war, during which we single-handedly fought against world oppression with our own resources. We learned how to fight by ourselves, with our own resources, and to defend our rights on the battlefields. We also learned about the tactics of aggression as well as the covert support that the world powers extended to the enemy of Islam. I believe that our people, especially our combatants, the military commanders in the Armed Forces, the IRGC, and the Basij forces know these very well now. It has been proved that Iran is invincible and has the power to defend itself, despite the rallying of many forces by our enemies.

Fortunately, during this period, we witnessed the development of the country's ordnance industry. Also, the training at the lines, in the battlefield, and in the rear raised the (?combatants') morale and made them completely self-confident. With their own hands and through their own efforts, they managed to procure all that was needed for defense.

Regarding the correctness of our stance, which is the root of our defensive spirit, it became clear to us—after witnessing our enemies' collusion with the oppressive powers of East and West, the Zionist reactionaries, and with Saddam against the Islamic Republic—that we are defending ourselves on the basis of the truth. This, in itself, is a source of strength and the reason for the excellent morale among us for our defense. We have no doubt that we are defending the truth and that we are the oppressed party.

Regarding the number of trained personnel, we are in a remarkable position, praise be to God. Millions have been trained and millions have fought on the battlefields and have learned the art of field combat. They know how to recognize the enemy, identify arms and the field of battle, and how to manufacture arms; all these factors strengthen the fronts of truth. We are in a favorable position, praise be to God. Following the acceptance of the resolution and the cease-fire on the fronts, we now have the opportunity to reassess our training and study the (?events) of the past years of war. We have discovered some of our weak points, which we could not remedy during the war, and will eliminate these. We can now provide the resources necessary for any other possible embroilment. What needs to be repaired will be repaired or modified.

We will revise our political relations so that these will be conducted in a more suitable manner than in the past. In general, the readiness of the Islamic Republic to ensure its defense is far better today than last year or at any other time. I am hopeful that this war will never resume. We do not want another outbreak of the war.

We will muster all of our efforts to prevent a resumption of the war, but to a point; in other words, the interests of the Islamic revolution and our rights in the border areas must be recognized. There also is the 1975 Algiers accord, which can form the axis of peace. If we can safeguard our rights, and if the resolution is implemented according to how it has been accepted by both sides, we will strive to prevent any resumption of the war. Of course, we should maintain our readiness. God willing, war will not be resumed, but if it is, we shall defend ourselves with greater readiness.

[Correspondent] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani. I thank you for your elaboration. As you see, we are in a condition of neither war nor peace today. What is our country's stance toward those who are obstructing the attainment of a durable peace? Also, what is the obligation, in such circumstances, of the honorable combatants who are stationed in various border areas? Thank you.

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] We have never had any hopes that the obstructionists would be instruments of peace. They imposed a war under a specific program and a special conspiracy, and they definitely do not favor a lasting peace in the region. Perhaps they wanted a cease-fire or a situation of neither war nor peace, but we should never pin any hopes on them. Our strength is the only guarantee of peace for us and the region. If the enemy realizes that a resumption of the war will entail years of hardship, and if the enemy realizes that the same danger it witnessed for years awaits them once again, it will never renew aggression.

They have tested their fate once, and if they are hoodwinked once again and misled as in the past, and they initiate another paranoid act—we cannot be certain that this will not happen—we should harbor no expectations about others. We should rely solely on ourselves and remain strong. If we are strong, the enemy will not take any steps for a new aggression.

However, I am happy for this opportunity to address the combatants on this occasion when we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the victory of our revolution. Our nation is involved in the revolution festivities. Our combatants are the main bulwark of this triumph. Those who are at the fronts and cannot participate in the festivities in the cities and villages will celebrate at their posts. Our people are aware that these victories and the safety of the revolution are due to the dear ones at the fronts, the hallowed blood which was shed, and the numerous youths who sacrificed their lives for the cause of Islam and the revolution. Today, we see the noble disabled ones in our society. There are the tribulations of our dear ones who were POW's, the miseries of the martyrs' families, of the many who remain POW's MIA's and disabled, these are the important factors which have contributed to the country's prestige and security, and preserved the revolution.

Our dear ones at the fronts should know their worth; their presence there is invaluable. They are in the same category in the eyes of God as the Muslim combatants of the battles of Badr and the Uhud at the advent of Islam and the associates of Imam Husayn. The Almighty provided this opportunity to consecrate their lives for the defense of Islam and the Koran. This is a gift from God which is not bestowed on all. Not everyone is blessed with such an opportunity. God willing, the enemy should know that we are ready, so he will not dare to commit any further aggression. Following the consolidation of peace, we hope that everyone will have the chance to attend to their daily lives and families and we will be able to meet with you all.

[Correspondent] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, I am extremely grateful to you for giving us of your precious time, and addressing the honorable guardians of our frontiers and our dear listeners of the "Voice of the Front." Thank you very much once again, Your Excellency.

### Majlis Speaker Warns Iraq To Withdraw Forces

*LD0401121789 Tehran IRNA in English 1200 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, IRNA—Acting Commander-in-Chief Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani warned again that Iraqi forces must withdraw to internationally recognized borders and evacuate all occupied Iranian soil.

"The Iranian revolutionary nation would neither accept occupation of an inch of its territory by the enemy nor intends to hold any part of the Iraqi soil," he said at the Ground Forces academy graduation ceremony Saturday.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the possibility of renewed war was weak but stressed that the Armed Forces must be vigilant and maintain their defensive morale even if real peace emerged.

### Mohtashemi Speaks to Religious Minorities Group

*LD0602090389 Tehran IRNA in English 0830 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 6, IRNA—Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi addressing the congress on religious minorities here Sunday said in Islam all minorities living in a country and a geographical entity are deeply bound forming a natural coalition.

Further in his address to the two-day congress at Tehran's Esteqlal Hotel, the first ever held, he said that under Islam all minorities by respecting certain conditions could form a single government.

The seminar is attended by representatives of 300,000-strong Jewish, Zoroastrian, and Christian minorities in the Majlis and personalities from these minorities.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashemi added that the Islamic revolution of Iran revolutionized all the past values concerning minorities. This is because Islam places a special value on human beings. The Holy Koran states that no one is superior to the other because of race, color and tribe, he told the congress. According to Article 13 of the Iranian constitutional law, Zoroastrian, Jewish and Christian Iranians are the only recognized religious minorities. These minorities are free to perform within the law their religious rites and ceremonies and act according to their own canon in matters of personal affairs and religious education.

The law also stresses that the Iranian Government and the Muslims are "duty bound" to treat non-Muslims in line with ethical norms, principles of the Islamic Republic of Iran, justice and equity and respect their human rights.

The spokesmen of the communities of the three minorities in Tehran contacted by IRNA said, out of the approximately 300,000 minorities, more than 50,000 are Jews, some 90,000 Zoroastrians and between 150,000-200,000 Christians.

The religious leader of Iranian Zoroastrians Rostam Shah-Zadi in an address to the congress said that holding of the congress was the most proper answer ever to plots of world imperialism.

Rabbi Oriel Davidi also addressing the congress said that objectives of the Islamic revolution of Iran are monotheistic. He said that Jewish minority is proud to have replied to the divine call of the Islamic revolution at its early stages.

Rabbi Davidi stressed that the Iranian Jews were purely Iranians with no foreign attachments. Anyone subservient to imperialism trying to portray himself as a member of the Iranian Jewish community is condemned and rejected, he concluded.

### Drug Traffickers Surrender, Avoid Hanging

*LD0402160589 Tehran IRNA in English 1520 GMT 4 Feb 89*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, IRNA—Some 33 smugglers surrendered themselves to the Islamic Revolution's Committee (IRC) over the past week, following a warning by the anti-drugs headquarters to give themselves up in order to escape capital punishment.

An IRC spokesman said over 1,140 drug trafickkers and addicts have been apprehended over the past few days and hundreds of kgs of narcotics confiscated.

The spokesman once again advised smugglers and addicts to immediately surrender themselves at IRC centers throughout the country before they are arrested.

A new law went into effect on January 21, stipulating execution for anyone caught with 30 grams of heroin or 5 kgs of opium.

Since then 96 smugglers have been hanged, hundreds arrested and scores of others killed in clashes with IRC Guards since Jan 21.

### Members of Drug Ring Arrested; Narcotics Seized

*LD0502163889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Following the arrest of 50 members of a narcotics procurement and distribution network in Tehran by the Islamic Committee Revolution Guards, the ring was annnihilated. According to a Central News Unit report, following the inspection of the houses of the ring's members, over 125 kg of various narcotics and 3 weapons were discovered. On the basis of this report, the Islamic Revolution Guards Committee of Bushehr and Mazandaran, in the past 48 hours, have confiscated from the drug dealers 23 kg and 9 kg worth of opium, in addition to quantities of cash and several vehicles.

According to another report, following the discovery of a huge narcotics procurement and distribution ring by the Islamic Revolution Guards of Hamadan, 8 members of this ring were arrested and charged with buying and selling over 10 kg of heroin. Upon their arrest, 63 grams worth of heroin was found on the culprits.

Moreover, the Islamic Revolution Guards of Toserkan have in the past few days confiscated 335 grams worth of heroin from a narcotics procurement and distribution ring. One woman and four men were arrested and taken to the judicial offices.

### Narcotics Seized, Two Smugglers Captured

*LD0602113489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] The Tehran Islamic Revolution Antinarcotics' Prosecutor's Office has announced: In continuation of the relentless fight against merchants of death and narcotics smugglers, one of the major narcotics distribution gangs in Tehran—which had close ties with international smugglers—was identified and routed in a series of intelligence operations by officers of the Islamic Revolution Prosecutor's Office.

According to a Central News Unit report, during the operation two smugglers together with large quantities of narcotics, foreign currency, weapons, and a number of vehicles, were captured. According to this report, 14 light vehicles, 5 trucks, 130kg of heroin; 1,100kg of opium; 30kg of hashish; and 20 G-3, Kalashnikov, Brno, and Colt weapons were seized from the smugglers and handed over to the relevant authorities.

According to a Central News Unit report, more than seven tons of narcotics seized from merchants of death were destroyed this morning in the presence of Ayatollah Gilani, member of the Council of Guardians; Hojjat ol-Eslam Zargar, supervisor of the Antinarcotics Prosecutor's Office; and representatives of the Interior Ministry, and of the Islamic Revolution Committee, Police, Gendarmerie, Prison Organization, Health Ministry, Intelligence Ministry, the Islamic Revolution Prosecutor's Office, and a number of Revolution Court judges.

According to this report, the narcotics included 2,350kg of heroin, 3,511kg of hashish, and large quantities of opium residue, antifreeze [as heard], and poppy seeds.

## Pakistan

### Reportage on Visit by USSR's Shevardnadze

#### Arrives for 1-Day Visit

*BK0502012589 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, who arrived in Islamabad last night on a day's visit, has said that his country wants to settle the Afghanistan issue peacefully. He told newsmen at the airport that the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan will be completed by the 15th of this month and that he will exchange views with the Pakistani leaders on various issues in this connection. Shevardnadze said he will hold talks with Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan today and will also meet with President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. He said that the main objective of his current visit is to hold consultations with the Pakistani leaders on how they can help to restore peace in Afghanistan.

#### Holds Talks With Yaqub Khan

*BK0502091989 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0900 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze held talks with Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan in Islamabad this morning. Our diplomatic correspondent understands that the two leaders exchanged views on the situation in Afghanistan following the proposed Soviet troop withdrawal from that country and, in particular, the current situation in Aghanistan. They also discussed relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union. Special emphasis was laid during the talks on economic and trade relations between the two countries.

### Extends Stay by 1 Day

*BK0502092089 Hong Kong AFP in English 0913 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 5 (AFP)—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has extended his stay in Islamabad following lengthy talks with his Pakistani counterpart Shabzada Yaqub Khan Sunday [5 February] on settling the Afghan issue, official sources said.

Mr. Shevardnadze was scheduled to leave at around 1200 GMT Sunday but postponed his departure until mid-day on Monday, official sources said.

Informed sources said Mr. Shevardnadze, who is also expected to meet with Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, might also hold direct talks with Afghan resistance leaders based in Pakistan.

Upon his arrival here, Mr. Shevardnadze called the Afghanistan problem "difficult."

### Received by Bhutto

*BK0502111189 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] The Soviet foreign minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, called on the prime minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto, at her chamber in the Parliament House in Islamabad today. The discussion focused on the situation in and around Afghanistan. They also discussed matters of mutual interest [words indistinct] bilateral cooperation. Earlier, the Soviet foreign minister held talks with his Pakistani counterpart, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan.

Mr Shevardnadze, who arrived for crucial talks on Afghanistan yesterday for a day's visit, has extended his stay in the federal capital by a day.

### Talks With President

*BK0502154489 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze had meetings with the president, the prime minister, and the foreign minister in Islamabad today and exchanged views with them on the Afghanistan issue and bilateral relations.

Shevardnadze held detailed discussion on the Afghan issue during his meeting with President Ghulam Ishaq Khan this afternoon. He extended an invitation on behalf of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to pay an official visit to the USSR.

The Soviet prime minister also called on Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto and exchanged views with her on the situation in and around Afghanistan. Matters of mutual interest and promotion of bilateral cooperation were also discussed during the talks. The Soviet foreign minister invited the prime minister to visit the Soviet Union; the invitation was accepted. The date of the visit will be fixed through diplomatic means at an appropriate time.

The Soviet foreign minister also exchanged views with Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan on global and regional issues. Apart from Afghanistan, they held talks on promotion of bilateral cooperation in all sectors of mutual benefit, for which there are good prospects. Shevardnadze is understood to have extended his stay in Islamabad by a day for further talks with the Pakistani leaders.

Meanwhile, a 16-member group of Afghans arrived in Pakistan from Europe to attend the consultative council meeting of the Afghan mujahidin to be held on the 10th of this month. Four commanders of the Afghan mujahidin have also arrived to attend the council meeting. Several other nominated council members are coming from Afghanistan and some Western countries to Pakistan to attend the council meeting.

### Proposes UN Meeting

*OW0602120889 Tokyo KYODO in English 1142 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 6 KYODO—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze on Monday proposed a meeting of all groups involved in the Afghan conflict under the auspices of the U.N. Secretary general's representative on Afghanistan to ensure that the Soviet troop withdrawal does not create a "threshold of civil war" in Afghanistan.

Shevardnadze was addressing a press conference at the end of his 40-hour stay in Islamabad, during which he met with Pakistani leaders but not with the leaders of the Pakistan-based Afghan mujahidin.

Shevardnadze, the first Soviet foreign minister ever to visit Pakistan, said the purpose of his visit was to promote intra-Afghan dialogue and to find a political settlement to the Afghan issue.

There will be no Soviet troops left in Afghanistan in about a week's time and it is imperative that all parties involved in the conflict seek a cessation of hostilities, Shevardnadze said.

He reiterated Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's earlier proposal to hold an international conference on Afghanistan, but said that if this was not possible yet the Afghan factions involved should meet under U.N. Auspices.

Shevardnadze told reporters that he had not shied away from meeting the Afghan mujahidin leaders during his stay in Islamabad, but said that no request for such a meeting had been made or received. The Soviet ambassador in Kabul, Yuliy Vorontsov, was already developing a dialogue with the mujahidin, he added.

A joint statement issued at the end of Shevardnadze's visit said the Soviet Union and Pakistan are both committed to encouraging the establishment of a broad-based government in Afghanistan formed by the Afghan people themselves and recognize their right to determine their own future and their political and economic institutions without outside interference.

The Soviet Foreign minister described the ruling Afghan Communist Party (PDPA) as the most powerful and organized force in the country and said that any attempt to create a political "structure" without its participation would be a waste of time.

Excluding any group from any future arrangement for Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal would be unrealistic, Shevardnadze said, adding that the participation of both the PDPA and former King Zahir and other emigres was essential to the success of any proposed meeting to elect a broad-based government for the country.

He said he "regretted" that such a meeting without either the PDPA or King Zahir was already scheduled for February 10 in Rawalpindi.

Shevardnadze appealed to the Afghan mujahidin to consider the future of Afghanistan and said that continuing hatred among rival factions could lead only to an impasse and would undermine peace in the region.

He declared categorically that Soviet troops would not return to Afghanistan once the withdrawal was completed, but noted that the Soviet Union does have moral and legal obligations to the Kabul Government under a bilateral defense treaty.

### Joint Statement on Visit Noted

*BK0602082489 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 6 Feb 89*

[Text] Pakistan and the Soviet Union have agreed to make efforts to promote a political settlement in Afghanistan, to bring peace and tranquillity and an end to the protracted conflict in that country. This has been said in a joint statement issued at the end of a 2-day visit of the Soviet foreign minister, Mr Shevardnadze, to Pakistan and his talks with Pakistani leaders.

The two sides reiterated to encourage the establishment of a broad-based government in Afghanistan to be formed through the efforts of the Afghans themselves, reflecting their right to determine their own future without any outside interference. The two sides reiterated their support for a sovereign, independent and nonaligned Afghanistan, enjoying good relations with all its neighbors.

Addressing a news conference at the end of his visit this morning, the Soviet foreign minister said during his meetings with the Pakistani leaders he has come to the conclusion that on a few aspects there is a high degree of accord for a political settlement in Afghanistan between the Soviet Union and Pakistan. He was convinced that Pakistan wishes a political settlement.

### Yaqub Khan on Improving Relations With USSR

*BK0502040689 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said his visit to Pakistan is not casual. He said he has come to Pakistan to exchange views on the obstacles of promoting bilateral relations as well as the Afghanistan issue. He said there are traditionally very good relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union in the fields of economics, trade, and science, and there are bright prospects for further promoting these relations.

Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who received the Soviet foreign minister, said that Pakistan will give serious attention to the issues mentioned by Shevardnadze. Pakistan will make efforts toward establishing peace in Afghanistan after the total withdrawal of the Soviet troops. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said Pakistan wants better relations with the Soviet Union based on mutual trust and confidence. He said he has confidence that the Soviet foreign minister himself will be able to see the spirit of goodwill that Pakistan has toward the Soviet Union.

### Army Chief: Surface-to-Surface Missiles Tested

*BK0502114589 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Pakistan has successfully fired and tested indigenously manufactured surface-to-surface long-range missiles and will also be able to roll out the first homemade tanks within 2 years' time. This was stated by the chief of the Army staff, General Mirza Aslam Beg, while addressing a joint session of the participants of the national defense and Armed Forces [words indistinct] at the National Defense College in Rawalpindi today. Giving details of achieving this landmark in indigenous arms production, the chief of the Army staff said two types of surface-to-surface missiles—one having a range of 80 km and the other 300 km—were tested recently.

### Further on Beg Comments

*BK0502132189 Hong Kong AFP in English 1245 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 5 (AFP)—Pakistan has successfully fired and tested indigenously manufactured surface-to-surface long-range missiles, Army Chief General Mirza Aslam Beg said Sunday.

Addressing officers at the National Defence College in Rawalpindi, General Beg also disclosed that Pakistan would be able to roll out its first tanks within two years, the official ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN (APP) reported.

He did not say when the missiles were fired, but press reports said they were tested last month.

Gen Beg said Pakistan recently tested two types of missiles, with ranges of 80 kilometers and 300 kilometers respectively.

The missiles and their guidance systems were developed locally, Gen Beg added.

"These are extremely accurate systems and are capable to carry a payload of 500 kilograms," he told military students from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia and Turkey, the APP said.

The Army chief said Pakistan's new tanks would "be capable of defeating any known armour in the world."

The Army chief also said Pakistan has achieved 90 percent self-sufficiency in all calibres of ammunition.

His statements follow accusations from Pakistan's traditional rival, India, that the new missiles could be intended to carry nuclear warheads.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said Friday that India would take steps to ensure that its security was not threatened.

The two neighbours, which have fought three wars in the past 40 years, are suspicious of each other's nuclear programmes, although both claim to oppose acquisition of nuclear arms.

Gen Beg said: "this indigenisation is part of the process of building a strong deterrent capability so that the country was not made a victim of aggression."

## More on Missiles Tests

*BK0502162489 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] Pakistan has successfully test-fired two types of indigenously manufactured surface-to-surface long-range missiles and will also be able to roll out the first homemade tank within 2 years. This was stated by the chief of the army staff, General Mirza Aslam Beg, while addressing a joint session of participants at the national defense and Armed Forces war courses at the National Defense College in Rawalpindi today. The missiles—one having a range of 80 km and the other 300 km—are extremely accurate arms and carry a payload of 500 kg. The chief of the Army staff said the homemade tank to be ready within the next 2 years would be capable of defeating any known armor in the world today.

## Spokesman Raps Gandhi Remarks on Nuclear Program

*BK0502033289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman expressed surprise and concern at the statement made by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in Bombay in which he said that West Germany has provided Pakistan with atomic technology and tritium, which can be used to increase the power of atomic bombs from 4 to 10 times. Expressing concern at the text and the context of the statement the spokesman said that both countries had made a good beginning toward normalizing relations after the meeting of their prime ministers. As a result of these talks, an accord was signed on not attacking each other's nuclear installations. This is definitely a step in the right direction.

The spokesman reiterated that Pakistan did not import any atomic material or technology of this sort from the Federal Republic of Germany. The German authorities have themselves said that they have not exported any plant to Pakistan to split tritium. However, there are press reports that India has acquired a large quantity of heavy water produced in Norway through clandestine sources. Similarly, press reports from the Federal Republic of Germany have indicated that India has imported 95 kg of fully enriched (Caribbean) metal, which can be used to manufacture 20 hydrogen bombs. Despite deep concern over India's atomic intentions, the spokesman did comment on these press reports. The spokesman expressed hope that the Indian leadership will desist from making efforts to create doubts and suspicions about Pakistan's nuclear program, which is meant only for peaceful purposes.

## Afghan Resistance Figure Arrested for Spying

*BK0502063789 Hong Kong AFP in English 0555 GMT 5 Feb 89*

[Excerpt] Quetta, Pakistan, Feb 5 (AFP) - A well-known Afghan resistance figure who has toured Europe and met the pope and former U.S. President Ronald Reagan has been arrested here on spying charges, police said.

Farida Ahmadi, 28, was among six "foreign spies" arrested over the past three days in this southwestern city, police said Saturday, adding that the six were found in possession of weapons, bullet-proof vests and "poison gas devices."

The police said those arrested included a suspect in the murder of Keshwar Kamal, former leader of the revolutionary Association of Afghan Women, who was assassinated two years ago by KHAD agent Ahmed Sultan.

The woman's association, which is now headed by Ms. Ahmadi, commemorated the anniversary of her [Keshwar Kamal's] assassination Saturday at a hotel in Quetta.

They said other arrests were expected in the next few days. [passage omitted]

## Sri Lanka

### Premadasa on Meaning of National Independence Day

*BK0302114189 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 3 Feb 89*

[Text] President Premadasa has requested the public to dedicate themselves to achieve peace, harmony and prosperity in the country. In an address to the nation on the significance of national independence day, the president said that the people have always decided to hoist the national flag in every place in the country. The national flag symbolizes peace, harmony and prosperity. It was designed by the leaders of all the community.

The president points out that Sri Lanka gained independence on the 4th of February 1948 after more than 400 years of imperial rule. Independence was essential at that time to create peace, harmony and prosperity among all communities in Sri Lanka. The Sinhala, Tamil, Muslims and (?other) communities lived in Sri Lanka. Although there are racial, religious and language differences, we have been able to live harmoniously as one nation. The economic development and spiritual development are essential for the prosperity of a nation.

Mr Premadasa said that the country had achieved a tremendous economic development during the last 11 years. Sri Lanka also achieved much progress in irrigation and hydropower generation during the last decade. About 900,000 acres of land were cultivated during the two seasons; 25,000 villages will be supplied with electricity within the next 2 years.

The president stressed that the benefits of development should be given to the poorer sector. Arrangements have been made to involve them in the production process and to improve their living condition. A silent revolution will take place within the 24 months. The president said his intention is to create a society of people to support each other. Rich people could be safeguarded by improving the living standards of the have nots.

The president requested the public to dedicate themselves to achieve this objective. He noted that the late prime minister, D.S. Senanayeka, and other national leaders of all the communities rendered their great services in Sri Lanka's fight for freedom.

### Delivers Address 4 Feb

*BK0402083189 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0714 GMT 4 Feb 89*

["OANA/pool" item—quotation marks as received]

[Text] Colombo, 4 Feb (LANKAPUVATH)—Religious ceremonies took precedence over the usual pomp and pageantry, as Sri Lanka today observed its 41st independence day. President Ranasinghe Premadasa unfurled the national flag at the Independence Square, former President Junius Richard Jayewardene was the chief guest. He was accompained by his wife.

Departing from the usual practice of pomp and pageantry associated with the celebrations, the day this year was observed in a simple manner with religious ceremonies given prominence. President Premadasa, accompained by his wife, Hema Premadasa, participated in a number of religious ceremonies at Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, and Christian places of worship before unfurling the national flag.

The day started with simultaneous religious ceremonies at different places of worship all over the island in which senior ministers of the interim cabinet participated. A bevy of schoolgirls rendered "Jayamangala Gatha" [Sri Lanka's national anthem] after which the assembly observed two minutes silence in honour of those who had sacrified their lives to preserve peace. Mrs Premadasa and Mrs Jayewardene placed roses at the foot of the statue. After the flag hoisting ceremony, President Premadasa delivered his address to the nation, where he underlined the need for maintaining communal harmony.

The president in his address said, "On this day, in February 1948, our freedom was proclaimed from this very place. Sri Lanka was reborn into modern nationhood. We dedicated ourselves to liberty, justice, communal harmony, and social progress. Today, on the 41st anniversary of independence, we affirm these sacred and luminous principles. Yet, changed circumstances demand a new vision. Old ideals must expand into new values for action. Liberty has to be protected with law and order. It must be preserved through discipline. Justice should now reach beyond the simple concept of fairness. It must embrace the ethic of distributive satisfaction. Communal harmomy requires communal responsibility. It must be fostered by the commitment of each and every community. It must be sustained by the commitment of each and every citizen.

Social progress should rest on economic justice. It must produce opportunity for all, discrimination for none, unity for the country. We are dedicated to make this vision a reality. In the years ahead a new revolution will flourish. It is a revolution that will be compassionate, disciplined, democratic, and non-violent. It is a revolution that will serve every hamlet, every village, and every town. It is a revolution that will create an equitable social order. It is a revolution inspired by the great Buddhist, Hindu, Islamic, and Christian faiths. Let us join hands in amity and unity to make our motherland a land of peace and prosperity.

Let this be our legacy to posterity. Let this be our contribution to the world. Through the strength of the people we will achieve victory for the people. Only then, will our country be truly worthy of its treasured heritage. Let us begin today for tomorrow is too late. To accomplish this great national task we seek the blessings of the noble Triple Gem."

### Sirimavo Bandaranaike Unhurt in Attack 5 Feb

*BK0502113489 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1052 GMT 5 Feb 89*

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Feb 5 (LANKAPUVATH)—Police reported 20 persons injured in a bomb explosion at a Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) meeting being held at Hingurakgoda in Sri Lanka's northcentral province this morning.

Police gave the time of the explosion at 1100 hours (local time). They said SLFP leader Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike was at the meeting but escaped unhurt.

### Official Refutes Bandaranaike Comment on Attack

*BK0602105689 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0942 GMT 6 Feb 89*

["OANA/pool" item—all quotation marks as received]

[Text] Colombo, 6 Feb (LANKAPUVATH)—The secretary of defense states in a press release issued today, "My attention has been drawn to a statement by Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike, leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party on the bomb explosion at her election meeting at Hingurakgoda yesterday, and which appeared in the front page of the ISLAND newspaper on Monday 6 February.

In this statement she has stated as follows:

"This is the second attempt on my life. I know who is interested in getting me out of politics. Mr Anura Bandaranaike has already informed the defence secretary about this".

Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike's statement that Mr Anura Bandaranaike informed me of any attempt on her life is totally incorrect and misleading. Therefore, I categorically deny this. Mr Anura Bandaranaike never informed me either personally or by telephone of such a threat.

The last occasion Mr Anura Bandaranaike spoke to me was on the 24th of January 1989, when he met me at the office of the secretary to the president. On that occasion he was accompained by Messrs Maithripala Senanayake [leader of SLFP faction], Haleem Ishak and Kavinda Walgampaya.

The secretary to the president and the inspector general of police were also present. This meeting was convened to discuss matters pertaining to the provision of adequate security to the SLFP candidates contesting the forthcoming general election. Almost all his requests for ensuring maximum protection for candidates of the SLFP were readily acceded to. Either on that occasion or thereafter Mr Anura Bandaranaike did not bring to my notice any attempts on the life of Mrs Bandaranaike.